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TASS CITES PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS ON SALT-II

LD252240 Moscow TASS in English 2233 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] New York, April 25, TASS--U.S. President James Carter, addressing the American Newspaper Publishers Association, dwelt on matters connected with the forthcoming conclusion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. Having noted that the USA and the USSR share a common recognition that their survival depends in a real sense on each other, the President said: "That is why the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks are so important. This effort by two great nations is unique in human history."

A SALT-II agreement, he went on, will promote stronger world peace. "And common sense tells us that we must work to make our competition less dangerous, less burdensome, and less likely to bring the ultimate horror of nuclear war. Indeed, the entire world has a vital interest in controlling the strategic arms race."

An overwhelming majority of the American people, the President noted, recognize the need for SALT-II. Our people want and expect continued step-by-step progress toward bringing nuclear weapons under control. We do not want a wholly unnecessary return to the cold war and an all-out arms race.

James Carter stressed that in the matter of SALT the U.S. has consulted closely with its allies who "count on us to manage successfully stable East-West relationship." The leaders of France, Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, Canada and other nations have voiced their support for the emerging treaty.

Replying to opponents of the agreement in the United States, the President stated that "SALT-II is not a favour we are doing for the Soviet Union. It is an agreement carefully negotiated in the national security interests of the United States." He stressed that the U.S. Government will not try to impose binding linkage between the SALT agreement and other matters. The rejection of the treaty, the chief American executive said, will have far-going consequences. Without SALT the danger to peace will increase; the attempts to contain the spread of nuclear weapons will be seriously undermined; improved relations with the Soviet Union would be replaced by heightened tensions; the process of arms control, so central to building a safer world, would be dealt a crippling blow; the world would be forced to conclude that America has chosen confrontation rather than cooperation and peace.

This is the inescapable choice we face. For the fact is that the alternative to this treaty is not "a perfect agreement drafted unilaterally by the United States in which we gain everything and the Soviets nothing. The alternative, now and in the forseeable future, is no agreement at all. [quote marks as received]

The President recalled that "the strategic forces of the United States and the Soviet Union today are essentially equivalent." At the same time he came out for the further buildup of U.S. military spending, which has already reached a record high for the entire history of the country. James Carter admitted that one of the main purposes of increasing the Pentagon's budget is the modernization of American strategic forces and the strengthening of NATO.

SOVIET-U.S. SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD251330 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 25, TASS--The USSR and the USA delegations to the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting strategic offensive arms had another meeting here today.

JACKSON STILL TRYING TO WRECK RATIFICATION OF SALT

LD241758 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Anatoliy Doronin and Georgiy (Zhargelov)]

[Text] The Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons remain one of the main subjects in the news agency reports.

AP reports from Washington: As the White House has revealed, President Carter will speak this week to various audiences. He will pay most attention to the SALT-II talks. Speaking yesterday to members of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the President said that the SALT-II agreement will reduce the risk of nuclear war, lower the level of strategic offensive weapons, hold back the development of weapons-systems science, and contribute to more stable political relations with the Soviet Union. Tomorrow, President Carter will speak to the Association of U.S. Publishers in New York.

On 21 April Powell, the White House press secretary, held a press briefing, calling on the journalists to explain the essence of the agreement and its positive sides to Americans and to cover the course of the talks objectively. At the same time, the agency reports, the following question remains unclear: Will the government be able to get the two-thirds majority vote in the Senate necessary to ratify the agreement. The not unfamiliar Senator Henry Jackson and a few other legislators, clearly toeing the line of the representatives of the military industrial complex, continue the campaign designed, in fact, to wreck this ratification.

USSR, U.S. WORK TOWARD BANNING RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

LD242242 Moscow TASS in English 2205 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 25, TASS--Meetings of delegations of the USSR and the USA were held in Geneva from February 6 to April 20 with the aim of continuation of the talks on banning new types and systems of mass destruction weapons and, in this connection, on banning radiological weapons.

During the talks the sides set out alternative approaches to the solution of various questions that were discussed. They continued working out a possible convention on banning radiological weapons and achieved progress in agreeing upon some basic provisions of the convention. The sides decided to continue the talks at the fixed datelines.

TASS REPORTS SPEAKERS AT GENEVA DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE

LD211712 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 21 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 21, TASS--The spring session of the Disarmament Committee is nearing completion. The delegates started the discussion of the question of "putting an end to the nuclear arms race and of nuclear disarmament," submitted on the initiative of the USSR and other socialist countries.

Considering the importance of the problem of ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and gradual reduction of its stocks up to their full elimination, the members of the committee decided to discuss it as one of the most important. This proposal is an inalienable part of the Soviet Union's policy aimed at ending the arms race, at disarmament and peaceful cooperation between states.

Mexico's representative Robles highly appreciated the proposal of the socialist countries and emphasized that it should be the subject of serious and constructive negotiations at the Disarmament Committee. The delegates of Algeria and Pakistan have noted that since the main threat to mankind comes from the danger of use of nuclear weapons, it is necessary to take the most urgent measures on the sphere of nuclear disarmament.

Representatives of the majority of the committee member-states stressed the need of the earliest opening negotiations and of preliminary consultations on the question of nuclear disarmament. Poland's delegate E. Sujka has noted that the support being given to the socialist countries' proposal by many delegations testifies to the paramount importance and urgency of the question.

The task of the committee is that in the course of the discussion ground should be prepared for organizing practical negotiations, and then consultations could be started in order to specify the range of questions to be discussed and resolved, the USSR's representative said in his speech.

The discussion of the proposal, tabled by the socialist countries, at the Disarmament Committee, will be continued.

USSR Disarmament Representative

LD251009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Melnikov report: "Supporting An Important Initiative"]

[Text] Geneva, 20 April--The spring part of the Disarmament Committee session is coming to an end. Yesterday the delegates set about discussing one of the most important points on the agenda--"ending the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament." A number of speeches emphasized the exceptional urgency of the proposal, submitted this February by a group of socialist countries, regarding talks on ending the production of all types of nuclear weapons and the gradual reduction of their stockpiles to the point of total liquidation.

The USSR representative pointed out that the problem of ending the nuclear arms race and of nuclear disarmament has top priority in the committee's work. He expressed satisfaction that the delegations from Cuba, Romania, Mexico, India, Sweden, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Pakistan and other countries had assessed the important proposal positively and that the number of coauthors of the working document had increased.

SOVIET DELEGATE AT BAVARIA ARMS LIMITATION TALKS

LD242216 Moscow TASS in English 2159 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tutzing (Bavaria), April 24, TASS--An international colloquium on topical questions of limitation of the arms race has ended the first day of its work here. The participants in the colloquium--prominent politicians, public leaders, scientists, diplomats and journalists from a number of European and Asian countries and also from the United States--stressed the significance of disarmament for preventing the danger of a nuclear war and strengthening international peace.

Speaking at the colloquium were Hans-Jurgen Wischnevski, minister of state at the FRG Federal Councellor's department, and Valentin Falin, head of the Soviet delegation. They expressed confidence of the need of continued vigorous efforts leading to the deepening of cooperation and concord between states. Emphasized has been the importance of concentrating the attention of the governments and the public on the earliest attainment of progress at the negotiations on limitation of strategic and other types of armaments.

ARMS TRADE 'MUST BE CURBED' FOR SAKE OF DETENTE, PEACE

LD241221 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Nikolay Polyanov article: "The Death Business"]

[Text] What Westerner does not recall the odious figure of (?Basil Zakharov), international weapons dealer, half-criminal, half-merchant, a man with a French passport and a British checkbook, the sinister hero of loud scandals whose dubious operations reached a truly worldwide scale on the eve of World War I? He new only one kind of morality--that of the crocodile--and swallowed up every rival who came within range of his insatiable maw. He sold arms "to friend and foe alike", as he freely admitted. He had a sacred belief in the inexhaustible demand for goods which sow death, and once said in a moment of frankness: "I make wars so that I can sell weapons to both sides."

Sad to say, in the eyes of today's weapons traders their resourceful precursor was no more than a novice. Where he made millions, now they reap a harvest of billions. Where he sold a series of ordinary howitzers, today they sell weapons systems costing more than some entire national arsenals. Where he was content with a commission of a few percent, arms concerns today obtain 200, 500 and sometimes more than 1,000-percent profit. And even the cynical formula about wars enabling the weapons trade to succeed has had some amendments made to it. Nowadays not only war but even "peace"--like the Camp David "peace"--can be a direct invitation to the death business.

This "peace," or more accurately conspiracy behind the peoples' backs, will be followed, on the admission of U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, by a tremendous surge in the arms race: Tel Aviv will be receiving new squadrons of warplanes, divisions of tanks, batteries of guns and missiles and, to cap it all, hundreds of millions of dollars to build air bases. Egypt will also be receiving an impressive helping of weapons. In this way the gendarme "axis" in the Near East uniting Cairo with Tel Aviv is being strengthened.

When J. Carter came to the White House he promised in one of his first presidential messages to show "restraint" in the area of weapons trade. That was 2 years ago. And what has happened? In a special report the Senate Foreign Relations Committee admits that there is a yawning gap between Washington's words and its actions. It seems that talk about "restraint" in the weapons business is intended only to divert attention and to calm an alarmed public. Meanwhile the military concerns are boosting their monstrous trade.

Last year the United States exported weapons valued at the astronomical sum of $15 billion. This amounts to between one-fourth and one-third of all U.S. weapons production. As a result, for example, despite a formal embargo the South African racists are receiving American warplanes, electronic equipment and other types of weapons which they immediately turn on the "Dark Continent's" peoples' national liberation movement. And South Africa is not the only addressee. The Senate committee report referred to above comes to the conclusion that "the reduction of weapons sales is not in step with the times." Here, it seems, is the real aim of Washington's promises to "show restraint."

What these promises sometimes mean in practice could be seen recently by visitors to a certain fair held in the city of (?Rosemont), near Chicago. It was a weapons market unprecedented even in the United States. Military concerns with well-known names like McDonnell-Douglas, Northrop, General Dynamics and others vied in offering their death-dealing wares. They praised their products' merits, promised customers reliable service and guaranteed "doorstep delivery" by any means open or clandestine. From where did the (Rosemont) customers come, one wonders? From Santiago, Pretoria, Salisbury, Seoul...

These people, the butchers of the Chilean people, South Korean militarists and South African racists, were sold weapons wholesale and individually, in an attempt to extract a double advantage from the operation: both to obtain profits and to support antipopular regimes.

Of course, it is not only American firms that make a living out of the weapons business. American diplomat Leslie Gelb, an (?expert) on the problems of weapons sales, recently explained when testifying in Congress: "I must state in all frankness that enthusiasm for restraint (in the sphere of selling arms) is still limited among our West European allies."

How diplomatically Mr Gelb expresses himself! Translated into the dry language of facts, his words mean that Washington's NATO partners not only take part in the big business of weapons but roughly try to elbow each other out and grab the juicier morsels. British, French, West German, Italian and Israeli firms eagerly slake the appetites of overseas dictators, racists and even overt fascists. British tanks ply the African Savanna and West German Milan missiles supplement General Pinochet's arsenals. Patrol boats from Israel serve under the South African flag off the Cape of Good Hope, whose name has become a joke in our time.

A particularly evil chapter in the annals of the weapons trade is being written today by the Western weapons concerns and their Beijing customers. British Harrier fighters, West German tanks and missiles and other weaponry from NATO countries have long figured in the lists of arms which the Chinese militarists would like to urgently acquire. It would be naive to assume that the Western firms making the corresponding deals are interested only in profitable trade. There is no doubt that profit considerations do play a part. But something else--political adventurism--is also evident. Those who sell weapons to the Beijing rulers cannot fail to know in what direction they will be turned. The Chinese aggression against Vietnam provided a clear enough explanation on that score. And that is not the only example. Beijing's entire foreign policy doctrine, permeated with great-power hegemonism and aimed at the seizure of other people's lands, ought to give the Western weapons businessmen pause for extremely serious reflection. They ought to realize that they are starting down a very slippery track. Traveling such a route in the company of Beijing militarists promises nothing good: No advantage can be hoped for, and the loss will probably be all the more painful.

The death business.... It is assuming a scale which is increasingly alarming to the world public and to many sober-minded politicians in the West. They are realizing more and more that the weapons traders must be curbed for the sake of future detente, to eliminate the remaining "hot spots," and for the sake of the triumph of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. But politics in our time cannot accept the morality of any (Basil Zakharov): They require the strict consideration of the realities of the modern world. Today the problem of limiting arms sales and deliveries can and must be resolved. The Soviet Union has always shown good will here. It is only up to the West.

FOREIGN PAPERS COMMENT ON WEST'S MIDEAST, INDIAN OCEAN PLANS

LD252116 Moscow TASS in English 1732 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] London, April 25, TASS--The newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH has published an article by its correspondent in Washington writing on the plans for expanding U.S. military presence in the Middle East with the aim of filling the "vacuum" which emerged there as a result of the revolutionary events in Iran.

The Pentagon has already drawn up plans providing for the setting up of a speedy reaction force including two infantry divisions and a division of the Marines, that could speedily interfere with airforce support in the Persian Gulf, Middle East and other areas. Such a formation with a total strength of 100 thousand men and officers is to be formed already in the autumn of this year.

In addition, the Pentagon is studying the question of forming a new U.S. naval formation in the Indian Ocean to be named the fifth fleet, according to THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.

There are also plans for the use in that area of long-distance naval reconaissance planes to be based on Diego Garcia Island.

The article points out Washington's special interest in attracting to the implementation of the strategic doctrine of the "allies of the United States as well as of the forces of the friendly countries." The American capital met with enthusiasm and approval the intention of the British Government to keep permanently in the area east of Suez a naval squadron of four combat frigates.

Delhi, April 25, TASS--The reports to the effect that Britain, the United States and the Netherlands are planning to turn Diego Garcia Island belonging to Britain into a permanent base for their combatant ships are a source of profound concern for India and the other littoral states coming out for the turning of the India Ocean into a peace zone, writes the Indian newspaper PATRIOT.

The British Defence Department, the newspaper points out, is drawing up strategic plans, according to which four frigates of the British Navy will be permanently stationed in the India Ocean.

The peoples of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean regard the plans of the Western powers as a direct threat to their sovereignty. The newspaper stresses that India resolutely protests against these dangerous plans and demands that the Indian Ocean be immediately turned into a peace zone.

TOKYO MEETING PREPARES FOR CAPITALIST STATES' TRADE TALKS

'Trade War' Discussion

LD231710 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 23 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 23, TASS--An international conference of representatives of the countries of North America, Western Europe and Japan opened in the Japanese capital. It is to make preparation at private level for a meeting of the leaders of the seven major capitalist countries in Tokyo in June this year. The meeting is to be attended by 150 scientists, businessmen and political figures.

The current conference is taking place in an atmosphere of intensification of crisis phenomena in the world capitalist system, and aggravation of trade and economic contradictions between capitalist countries. "Trade war" assumed a particularly wide scope within the USA-Japan-Common Market triangle as well as between the economically strongest capitalist states and the developing countries. Calls for the exercise of "free trade" principles in the Western world have not produced positive results. In capitalist countries, national protectionism trends are growing, restrictions to foreign commodities increase, and mutual retaliatory sanctions are being applied.

According to a report by the KYODO TSUSHIN news agency, at today's meeting the participants in the conference on the whole came to the opinion that it is necessary to take measures to curb inflation in the USA; inflation which is having an adverse effect on the stability of the international monetary system and the state of international balances of payment.

Conference Conclusion

LD252058 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 25, TASS--A conference of representatives of countries of North America, Western Europe and Japan, belonging to the tripartite commission, has ended in the Japanese capital. It discussed questions of preparations for the forthcoming conference of the leaders of the seven biggest capitalist countries, scheduled in Tokyo in June.

Various problems facing the capitalist world were discussed at the conference attended by 150 scientists, businessmen and politicians, including the former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger, the FRG Minister of Economy Lambsdorff, the president of the board of Chase Manhattan Bank Rockefeller. They also discussed problems of the imbalanced nature of international balances of payments, questions of energy resources and relations with China.

The present conference demonstrated once again that the leading capitalist countries are faced by unresolvable problems. This is evidenced by the speech made by the Japanese Premier Ohira at a reception after the ending of the conference and in which he dwelt on questions of trade and economic contradictions between Western countries.

In particular, Ohira warned against the adoption of protectionist measures by the United States and EEC countries in the field of foreign trade, saying that such steps would plunge the world capitalist economy into a state of "total chaos and instability." The accent made by the Japanese prime minister on the problem of trade contradictions between the principal Western partners is explained by the growing pressure put on Japan by the United States and the Common Market which demand a balancing of bilateral trade turnover. Japan's surplus in the trade with the United States and EEC countries last year reached 11.6 and 6.4 billion dollars respectively.

SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESSES UNIDO COUNCIL SESSION IN VIENNA

LD251936 Moscow TASS in English 1811 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Vienna, April 25, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Vykhodtsev reports:

The 13th session of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation's council opened at the Hofburg Palace in Vienna. It is attended also by representatives of a number of international organisations and national-liberation movements.

The council will discuss the fulfillment of the decisions and recommendations of the 2nd UNIDO general conference and the 7th special session of the U.N. General Assembly on international economic cooperation. Organisational, financial questions and documents submitted to the session by its standing committee will also be examined.

Speaking in the general debate was USSR delegate at international organisations in Vienna, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Vladimir Yerofeyev. The Soviet Union, the ambassador said, shows deep understanding of the developing countries' desire to raise their industries at a high pace, and well realizes the difficulties facing them on this path, since the Soviet Union also had to tackle such tasks in one or another form.

The experience of the Soviet state is the most characteristic historical example of rapidly overcoming backwardness and attaining independence and economic self-reliance.

On the basis of the decision of the 25th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union is expanding and strengthening economic, scientific and technical ties with developing states. There are at present 64 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America with which the USSR has agreements on economic and technical cooperation. The scope of the Soviet Union's economic and technical assistance to the developing states increased 6.2 times over the 1960 level, while Soviet exports of complete sets of equipment for enterprises in these countries increased 8.8 times.

In 1978, Vladimir Yerofeyev noted, the Soviet Union continued to give assistance to the developing states in resolving the crucial problem of industrialisation--the training of national cadres.

Supporting the developing countries' struggles for a reconstruction of international economic relations, the Soviet Union regards this task as one of the most crucial global problems whose solution is impossible without the further consolidation of peace and security, furthering the detente process, slashing military spending and curbing the arms race. In this connection the ambassador felt it fitting to recall the Soviet Union's proposal on reducing by 10 per cent the military budgets of the great powers and utilizing part of the assets released in this way for assisting developing countries.

PROJECTED LATVIAN EMIGRE RALLY IN SWEDEN CONDEMNED

LD250917 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

["Rejoinder" by E. Kovalev: "A Dirty Enterprise"]

[Text] According to Swedish press reports, "a rally of free Latvians from all corners of the globe" is planned to be held on the island of Gotland in June this year. Representatives of Latvian bourgeois emigres in the United States, Britain, Canada, the FRG and Australia are planning to attend. This shameful spectacle, brazenly timed to coincide with the Latvian national holiday, "Ligo," was initiated by anti-Soviet nationalist emigre organizations--the "Latvian National Foundation," which operates in Stockholm, the notorious "World Association of Free Latvians," whose leaders have found refuge in the United States, and, finally, remnants of the "Daunavas Vanagi" (which means "Dvina Falcons") terrorist bands, although it would be more accurate to call them Nazi vultures. During the Hitlerite occupation of Latvia these bandits actively collaborated with the fascists, behaved like loyal assistants of the "SS" and dealt brutally with the Latvian patriots who were defending Soviet power.

All these bourgeois nationalists have a fierce hatred for Soviet Latvia. They do not balk at overt falsification and propagation of dirty fabrications and they constantly slander the Latvian people's tremendous successes and achievements during the years of Soviet power. There is no doubt that their new assemblage organized on the island of Gotland will pursue the same unworthy aims. As is known, the anti-Sovietists intend to make wide use of the facilities granted them by the local authorities for the organization of a variety of demonstrations, meetings and exhibitions of an unfriendly nature with respect to the Soviet Union. It is no surprise to find that this is the work of the bitterest enemies of new Soviet Latvia--the myrmidons of the former bourgeois regime and servants of the Nazis who fled their native land to escape just retribution at the hands of the Latvian people.

One thing is strange, however: It is clear from the public swaggering of the organizers of the provocative enterprise--the "Dvina Vultures"--that they have the support of certain Swedish state organs, in particular the Ministry of Education which is allocating financial resources for the Gotland assemblage and also the Gotland Provincial Council and a number of other state departments.

Unfortunately, it has to be said that with the assistance of Swedish official authorities Swedish territory is being offered for the overt purpose of holding an assemblage whose aims are clearly hostile toward the Soviet Union. It cannot be denied that this practice is not in keeping with the principles of good-neighborliness which characterize, by and large, relations between the USSR and Sweden. Nor does it accord with the Swedish Government's repeated statements that it intends to develop our relations in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding and noninterference in one another's internal affairs.

The Soviet people are hopeful that appropriate measures will be adopted in Sweden in connection with the provocation that is being prepared on Gotland and that the organizers of this farce will not be allowed to cast a shadow on the good relations between our peoples.

EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE STUDIES OPENS IN GRENOBLE

LD250912 Moscow TASS in English 0752 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Paris, April 25, TASS--The third European symposium on material studies in space has opened in the building of the Nuclear Research Centre in Grenoble.

Scientists and specialists from 20 countries will sum up the results of the development of world science in the field of the forming of materials in conditions of weightlessness.

The head of the information centre of the French National Space Research Centre Daniel Metzle spoke highly in a TASS interview about the contribution made by Soviet and American scientists to the creation and development of a new branch of science--space material studies.

Daniel Metzle noted the beneficial and mutually advantageous nature of Franco-Soviet ties in this field. The joint experiment involving the creation of crystals and pure metals on board the station "Salyut-6" was an important event for French scientists, he said. Laboratories and institutes in Bordeaux, Grenoble, Paris, Toulouse and other French scientific centres took part in the preparation of research material that was delivered in April to the station by the transport space ship "Progress-5."

Daniel Metzle expressed conviction that the successful ties between scientists of the USSR and France serve the cause of enriching world science, the more extensive use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON SOLAR SYSTEM STUDIES OPENS IN ROME

LD241844 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Rome, April 24, TASS--An international congress of scientists, devoted to problems of the emergence and the study of the solar system, has opened in Italy's capital. Leading specialists in cosmic-ray astrophysics of a number of West European countries, the Soviet Union and the United States have come to Rome to participate in the work of the congress which is held by Italy's National Council of Scientific Research.

The scientists' attention will be centered on the study of galaxies, the surface of planets and processes taking place inside celestial bodies.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION'S USSR VISIT

Ponomarev Remarks

LD250831 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Meetings With U.S. House of Representatives Delegation"]

[Text] Meetings took place in the Kremlin 19 and 20 April between a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation and the U.S. House of Representatives delegation.

In his speech B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission, noted that the ties between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the U.S. Congress, which have become regular, are a positive phenomenon. At the same time he stressed the importance of these contacts yielding practical results.

The course and results of the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet held on 4 March showed that Soviet people inanimously and warmly approve the domestic and foreign policy of the party and the Soviet state. The speeches of candidate deputies and voters were permeated with the ideas of peace, peaceful creative labor, further economic development, increasing living standards, and friendship between peoples throughout the world. No threats were made, nobody demanded the stepping up of the arms race or an increase in the military budget. On the contrary, we deputies received from the people a mandate to continue to follow a course of peaceful coexistence and deepening detente, a course against the arms race and for real disarmament. The USSR Supreme Soviet and Government will continue to do everything possible to insure that peace is secured, to prevent new wars, whether local or--even more so--world war, and to strive for real progress on the path of military detente. All this reflects the true peace-loving nature of the Soviet state and the socialist system.

Moving on to questions of Soviet-American relations, B.N. Ponomarev said that since 1972, that is, since personal contact at the level of state leadership began to play a considerable role in relations between our countries, good foundations have been laid for their successful development. Cardinal significance is attached to such documents as the "basic principles of mutual relations between the USSR and the United States," the agreement on averting nuclear war, and others which for the first time in the history of relations between our two countries formulate their common aim--the elimination of the danger of nuclear war. "Life itself demands," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed, "that considerations of a long-term nature dictated by concern for peace should be decisive in Soviet-American relations. This is the line we adhere to; we expect the same in reply."

A relative balance and parity of forces exists between the USSR and the United States. This is a real fact, and has become a starting point at disarmament talks. Our second starting point at disarmament talks was the strict implementation of the principles of equal security and the renunciation of attempts to acquire unilateral military advantages, under whatever pretext. Without observance of this principle no progress can occur in the sphere of military detente.

Speaking of the conclusion of a SALT-II treaty, B.N. Ponomarev stressed that the USSR does not need it any more than the United States does. They need it equally. It takes into account both sides' basic vital interests. The conclusion of this important treaty has now drawn considerably nearer.

Nonetheless noisy activity has been launched in the United States virtually aimed at wrecking the treaty under any pretext. The only "justification" for such a campaign is the same old irritating talk about the "Soviet military threat." I wish to say quite definitely that we Soviet people and the Soviet state do not need war. We consistently advocate peace not because we are weak or cannot wage war. We do so because it is the essence of our socialist system--the most humane and democratic system.

There is no military threat from the Soviet side. On the contrary, we have put forward many proposals aimed at improving relations and concluding the most peace-loving agreements. "Our efforts," L.I. Brezhnev has stressed, "are aimed at insuring that matters do not get as far as a first or second strike, that there is no nuclear war at all." Of course, the Soviet Union is strengthening its defense capability. We are forced to strengthen our military potential by the steady buildup in the military potential of NATO and its leader--the United States.

Some people in the United States are now trying to turn the question of SALT II into a kind of lever for pressuring the Soviet Union. This refers to attempts to "link" the strategic arms limitation problem with other problems which may be important but are in no way related to it. The deep-seated causes of these processes, which some people in the United States are inclined to see as only "sources of concern," are absolutely clear. The world is changing and masses of people, having been oppressed over the centuries, want to become masters of their own destiny, of their own countries. They are no longer willing to suffer unjust, often basically inhuman systems, and are rising to the struggle--in whatever forms are dictated by the concrete situation.

Our position is very simple: Let new progressive regimes, wherever they have arisen in accordance with the people's will, themselves determine their country's path of development and destiny. We consider it erroneous and dangerous to link the inevitable national liberation movements with questions of averting nuclear war. It must be clear to everyone, B.N. Ponomarev noted, that the wrecking of the SALT-II agreement would lead to a big new spurt in the nuclear arms race, a sharp increase in military expenditure and an increase in the threat of nuclear war, a threat to the security of our two countries and the entire world. All mankind is awaiting the conclusion of a SALT-II agreement with hope. And the Soviet Union is doing everything necessary to insure that a SALT-II agreement is concluded without delay.

Touching on the Vienna talks, B.N. Ponomarev said that the NATO leadership is stubbornly reluctant to agree on a basis of the principles of equality and equal security of the sides. By foisting on us a dispute over the numerical strength of Warsaw Pact forces that is completely without factual justification, the NATO men want, above all, simply to gain time for accelerated rearmament.

The Soviet Union recently put forward new initiatives, which were set out by L.I. Brezhnev in his election address on 2 March. This address contains an important proposal on the conclusion of a kind of nonaggression pact between the participants in the all-European conference. In this speech L.I. Brezhnev also stressed the USSR's readiness to hold talks on limiting--on a reciprocal basis--medium-range weapons in Europe, taking into account, of course, the existence of American military bases there.

In the postwar period the Soviet Union has put forward scores of initiatives on disarmament questions. Present talks are taking place on banning all nuclear weapon tests, on preventing the creation of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction, on banning and eliminating chemical weapons, on banning radiological weapons, on restricting trade in conventional weapons, and so forth. [paragraph continues]

If there were real results at these talks military detente would no longer be simply a desire but a fact. USSR Supreme Soviet deputies are aware of the importance of any practical step in resolving these problems. And they call on the U.S. Congress to exert its efforts to achieve practical results.

As for USSR-U.S. economic ties, the main difficulties here are as ever caused by discriminatory U.S. legislation with respect to the USSR, as well as by the government's administrative, political and opportunist [konyunkturnyye] acts.

Assessing the Near East situation, B.N. Ponomarev set out the Soviet Union's well-known position of principle. The separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty has served only to exacerbate the situation and does not accord with the task of a genuine settlement of the Near East problem, whose principles are enshrined in the well-informed UN Security Council resolution and other international documents. Only a peace founded on the observance of the vital rights and interests of all peoples in the region, including the Palestinian people's right to create their own state, can be called peace, and the future belongs only to such a peace.

Assessing the situation in Asia, B.N. Ponomarev said: For a long time we have been giving warnings on the real threat which Beijing's foreign policy course presents. The aggression against Vietnam showed that our concern was well-founded. In giving the necessary assistance to Vietnam the Soviet Union has displayed composure, restraint and high responsibility for the destinies of universal peace.

In principle we consider it natural for the United States to decide to recognize the PRC. But when we hear statements on the coincidence of the "general aims" and "strategic interests" of the United States and China, that is entirely another matter. Plans for using China to change the strategic correlation of forces in the world are directed against the very foundations of peaceful coexistence. Attempts to play the "Chinese card" encouraged Beijing to attack Vietnam. Some people in the United States were glad at this. But there is hardly any reason for such joy now. The Beijing leadership's actions showed that it is using its partners for its own purposes and intends to "play its cards" itself with scarcely foreseeable results for the entire world.

Under present conditions, to arm China and to encourage its expansion is to risk the destiny of mankind and disregard your own people's vital interests. It is naive to assume that once China has armed itself still more it will participate obediently in the West's global strategy and serve the West's interests.

In conclusion B.N. Ponomarev said: For the first time in history under conditions of peace major powers are holding talks on whether to intensify preparations for war or not to do so but to occupy a reasonable position and reduce arms, thereby promoting the preservation of peace between them and the strengthening of universal peace. The situation is really unprecedented. It is associated with the fact that both the great powers possess weapons with collossal destructive power. It is also associated with awareness of the really catastrophic consequences for mankind if these weapons were used. And once this awareness exists, then obviously real chances exist for preventing war. There can only be one conclusion from this premise: to approach constructively all questions associated with arms, to honorably and consistently fulfill what our voters and yours want and what millions of people throughout the world are striving for, to remember our responsibility to the peoples, who are demanding an end to the arms race, and to avert war.

As L.I. Brezhnev has said, we are convinced that Soviet-American relations really can not be only normal but actually good. [paragraph continues]

We are prepared for this and we call on American congressmen to make their contribution to the policy of detente and the positive development of Soviet-American relations for the sake of peace and international security.

In a reply speech J. Brademas stressed that all such discussions take place at times of importance for the development of U.S.-USSR relations.

Many questions now being discussed were on the agenda during the previous meeting, in 1975. But we now look at some of them differently, which is evidence of the progress achieved during the intervening period.

This meeting is perhaps the most important of all, because it is taking place at a time when we are on the brink of achieving a SALT-II agreement. The subsequent summit meeting will lay firm foundations on the path to peace. We must find ways in which the United States and the USSR can cooperate. These and subsequent talks must break down the wall which separates us. Wherever possible we must move from the era of confrontation to the era of cooperation, achieving better mutual understanding.

Congressman R. Michel acknowledged that if a public opinion poll was held on SALT-II in the United States now, the answers would undoubtedly be positive. We do not have the right to vote on this treaty, but we can express our views and thereby shape public opinion.

The impression is being created, V.A. Kirillin said during the meeting, that many people in the United States think that the development of trade and scientific and technical cooperation are necessary above all to the Soviet Union and are only necessary to the United States to a lesser degree. Decades of experience shows that such cooperation must be mutually advantageous and cannot be otherwise.

Among certain figures speaking in the United States, V.V. Zagladin noted, this interpretation can sometimes be heard: The Soviet Union's consistency, lack of hesitation and desire for a SALT-II treaty is taken to mean a special kind of interest greater than that of the United States. Appropriate conclusions are drawn: Since the Soviet Union has an interest, new concessions should be demanded from it. I wish to stress that this is an illusion. The treaty is equally necessary to the USSR, the United States, and the whole world.

A.B. Chakovskiy demonstrated what harm is done by anti-Soviet campaigns "on human rights" to the cause of strengthening peace and mutual understanding between peoples.

Americans, G.A. Arbatov said, are inclined to look at everything only from their viewpoint, only to notice what affects them, and not to reckon with the attitude of the other side. Hence the double standards which are now creating many problems for our mutual understanding.

Congressman L. Nedzi said: "We welcome the fact that the SALT talks are nearing completion. I believe that despite certain differences of opinion, the advantages we will obtain from effective strategic arms limitation will do more to help our countries' security than the uncontrolled arms race. Renunciation of SALT would be a great mistake. Without SALT-II there is no hope for SALT-III. We must advance in this direction for the sake of peace.

Discussion then took place in groups, where questions of strategic arms limitation, Soviet-American trade and economic relations, scientific, technical and cultural ties, human rights and regional problems were examined.

Taking part in the discussion were:

On the Soviet side--V.P. Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, and USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies P.F. Alekseyev, V.S. Alkhimov, V.G. Afanasyev, S.F. Akhromeyev, N.N. Blokhin, R.F. Dementyeva, G.A. Zhukov, N.N. Inozemtsev, M.M. Kozlov, R.I. Kosolapov, Z.M. Kruglova, V.L. Kudryavtsev, V.S. Paputin, V.N. Sushkov and L.B. Shapiro.

On the American side--C. Vanik, L. Hamilton, R. Gephardt, W. Gradison, G. Downey, R. Dellums, J. Johnson, M. McHugh, R. Preyer, G. Spellman, T. Wirth, W. Whitehurst, R. Shelby and J. Edwards.

On the same day a luncheon was given in honor of the delegation of congressmen on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet during which B.N. Ponomarev and J. Brademas exchanged toasts.

PRAVDA Report on Visit

LD261021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Unattributed report: "On the Visit of the Delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives to the Soviet Union"]

[Text] A delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives consisting of J. Brademas (leader of the delegation), R. Michel, C. Vanik, L. Hamilton, R. Preyer, L. Nedzi, R. Dellums, T. Downey, M. McHugh, G. Spellman, T. Wirth, R. Gephardt, R. Shelby, J. Edwards, W. Whitehurst, J. Jackson and W. Gradison was in the Soviet Union from 13 through 22 April on an official visit on the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation was received by A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. J. Brademas, the head of the delegation, and delegation members R. Michel, C. Vanik and L. Hamilton had a meeting with A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister.

From 19 through 21 April the delegation met and had talks in the Kremlin with a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation consisting of B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee (leader of the delegation), M.P. Georgadze, V.P. Ruben, V.V. Zagladin, V.A. Kirillin, P.F. Alekseyev, V.S. Alkhimov, G.A. Arbatov, V.G. Afanasyev, N.N. Blokhin, R.F. Dementyeva, G.A. Zhukov, N.N. Inozemtsev, R.I. Kosolapov, Z.M. Kruglova, V.L. Kudryavtsev, V.S. Paputin, A.B. Chakovskiy and L.B. Shapiro, and also M.N. Kozlov, deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, and Col Gen S.F. Akhromeyev.

During the meetings and talks which took place there was discussion of various aspects of Soviet-American relations, and above all questions of preparing a strategic offensive arms limitation treaty (SALT-II), problems of ending the arms race in general, and also trade, economic, cultural and human relations between the two countries. A number of questions concerning the international situation were also examined.

Although the views expressed by the sides by no means always coincided, as a result of the discussions a general understanding was reached on a number of questions, which can serve as a basis for practical actions by USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and U.S. congressmen in their countries, and also for their cooperation.

During the meetings representatives of both delegations expressed the profound conviction that key significance for eliminating the threat of world war and ending the arms race is now attached to the speediest conclusion and entry into force of a SALT-II treaty.

On the Soviet side a firm desire was expressed to continue to do everything to strengthen peace and develop Soviet-American relations on the principles of equal security and mutual respect for sovereignty. The Soviet Union advocates the continuation of dialog on disarmament and the broadening of the subject matter of talks on this question.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and members of the U.S. House of Representatives stressed that the development of trade and economic cooperation could promote to a great extent the improvement of Soviet-American relations. However, this is hindered, in particular, by the continuing discriminatory U.S. legislation.

Both delegations proceeded from the premise that in the matter of developing Soviet-American relations it is necessary to take into account the differences between the social and political systems which exist in the two countries. At the same time it was stressed that if one is guided by the sincere desire to strengthen peace, avert nuclear war and promote mutually advantageous cooperation, ideological and sociopolitical differences are not an obstacle.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation expressed the firm conviction that by joint efforts the USSR and the United States could make a great contribution to insuring lasting peace and on that basis to resolving global problems.

During the meetings the participants repeatedly reasserted the desire to further develop relations between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the U.S. Congress and to enrich the forms of these relations.

During their stay in the Soviet Union the American congressmen also visited the cities of Tbilisi, Leningrad, Vladimir and Suzdal.

In Tbilisi they had a meeting with E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, and also had a talk in the Georgian Supreme Soviet and familiarized themselves with the republic's achievements in the development of industry, agriculture and culture.

In Leningrad the delegation was received in the city soviet, visited the V.I. Lenin Memorial cemetery, and familiarized themselves with new districts in the city on the Neva and with its plan for economic and social development.

The delegation left for home on 22 April. The delegation was seen off by V.V. Zagladin, deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, and USSR Supreme Soviet deputies G.A. Arbatov, R.F. Dementyeva, G.A. Zhukov, V.L. Kudryavtsev and A.S. Chakovskiy.

Among the send-off party was M. Toon, U.S. ambassador to the USSR.

Vanik on Need for SALT-II, Trade

LD251149 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Report by S. Vishnevskiy: "'Detente Is Alive and Well!"]

[Text] The members of the U.S. House of Representatives delegation described their meetings and conversations with Soviet leaders, USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and representatives of our public as useful and constructive. Before leaving for home Charles Vanik, congressman from Ohio, was interviewed by a PRAVDA correspondent.

The legislator spoke in a precise and measured manner. He shared his impressions of the delegation's Soviet trip:

"It is my third trip to your country. I will take home the most profound impressions from this trip. In Georgia, in Leningrad I was very touched by the concern for environmental conservation. The Soviet Union is an example to many countries of how to keep the earth for the people."

Did the congressman agree with L.I. Brezhnev that Soviet-American relations can in fact be really good and not just normal?

"Undoubtedly," he said. "And it is gratifying to see the strong trend toward improving these relations in both our countries. The powerful dynamic trend toward the speediest achievement of an accord on strategic offensive arms limitation (SALT-II) is gathering momentum. The overwhelming majority of Americans favor the signing and ratification of an agreement. This is also the feeling of my electors in the 22d district of Ohio, which includes four counties around Cleveland, and I have verified this. It is true that some people are expressing doubts and objections and see shortcomings in the agreement that is being prepared. But no criticism can overshadow the main factor--the tremendous benefit of SALT-II for both countries. An accord would increase trust between our states and would benefit peace. But SALT-II is not an end in itself. After the conclusion of the treaty we must embark on SALT-III talks aimed at further limiting and reducing nuclear missiles. This would also impart additional impetus to other crucial talks on, for example, limiting supplies of weapons to third countries. This is why I am in favor of SALT-II. Unreservedly. Unequivocally. Were I a senator I would definitely vote for treaty ratification. This is what I say to my colleagues in the other house of Congress which has to discuss and ratify the fundamental document."

This visit to the Soviet Union, C. Vanik noted, has strengthened my belief in the need for SALT-II. I will say here and now that in my view Soviet people have a better idea of the misfortunes and dangers of war than many Americans. Our country has not known such bloody battles as Stalingrad. Our people did not suffer such colossal losses in the flames of the last war as your people. It is clear why the Russians have such a realistic approach to the task of preventing a new war and why there is such a massive potential of sincere love of peace here....

I listen to the legislator's arguments and I get to thinking: Is this really the co-author of the 1974 Jackson-Vanik trade act amendment? Yes, it's one and the same. The Ohio congressman pushed through the House of Representatives (and Henry Jackson pushed through the Senate) an amendment containing the intolerable demand that the USSR and the other socialist countries alter their domestic legislation on the procedure for the emigration of citizens. Otherwise Congress would legalize discriminatory restrictions on trade and economic relations between the socialist countries and the United States.

The Jackson-Vanik amendment became the main obstacle in the path of the development of mutually advantageous trade and economic relations between the two countries. As a result U.S. business circles missed out on benefits worth billions of dollars. The authors of the amendment made a big blunder. The attempt to interfere in the USSR's international affairs failed.

But we must pay tribute to Charles Vanik: in contrast to Jackson he realized his error. And he had the courage to admit it publicly. Now he advocates the abolition of discriminatory restrictions on trade with the USSR.

"I carried out a poll on my electoral district. Some 75 percent of those questioned were in favor of removing obstacles to trade with the USSR. And this figure reflects the mood throughout America. Most businessmen are decidedly in favor of granting the Soviet Union Most-Favored-Nation status. There is growing support for this stance in both houses of Congress.

C. Vanik called the position of the detente opponents "catastrophic for America." He said:

"It is necessary to remove the obstacles to the development of commercial ties. Mutually advantageous trade will bring our countries closer together and improve the political atmosphere. To grant the Soviet Union Most-Favored-Nation status would be to assist the achievement of the ratification of the SALT-II treaty by the Senate. The pluses are multifaceted, as you can see.

"Detente is alive and well," so ends the conversation with the Ohio congressman.

U.S. Congressmen on Visit

LD251211 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Unattributed report: "In the Interests of Cooperation: The Official Visit to the USSR by U.S. Congressmen Has Ended"]

[Text] The official visit to the Soviet Union by a U.S. House of Representatives delegation, which was here at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has ended. The American guests visited Moscow, Leningrad, Tbilisi, Vladimir and Suzdal. They met with Soviet politicians and statesmen and representatives of our country's public and exchanged opinions on questions concerning bilateral relations and a number of international problems.

At the end of the American congressmen's visit IZVESTIYA correspondent V. Mkrtchyan asked John Brademas, leader of the delegation and deputy leader of the Democratic Majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, and other members of the delegation to share their impressions of Soviet-American relations and the prospects for their further development. This is what they said:

John Brademas, deputy leader of the Democratic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives:

"Our visit is the third in a series of meetings and exchanges of opinions between parliamentarians of the United States and the Soviet Union since 1975. The talks with Soviet politicians and statesmen during this meeting were probably the most frank, constructive and useful. We had the opportunity to discuss a series of important problems facing our two countries, and above all problems associated with strategic arms limitation, trade questions and other questions. Meetings and talks of this kind will continue to help dispel the distrust which our countries unfortunately feel toward each other. Undoubtedly the constructive dialog we have had in Moscow will help clear the way for achieving progress in the speediest conclusion and validation of a SALT-II treaty, which is of key significance for eliminating the threat of world war and ending the arms race. This will also help resolve other problems facing us, including expansion of trade relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The American delegation leader also voiced agreement with the thought expressed in Moscow by Soviet statesmen that if the United States and the USSR were able to reach agreement on disarmament problems, the whole world would stand to gain.

Congressman Lee Hamilton, member of the U.S. House Committee on International Relations:

"The American people want to live in peace with the Soviet people and support a course of renouncing the cold war." Concern is often expressed in the United States about a possible U.S.-USSR confrontation in explosive regions of the world. But inasmuch as we want to live in peace with the Soviet Union, we have a strong desire to overcome that distrust which still, unfortunately, exists between our countries. [paragraph continues]

We have different political systems, and it is very important for each side to understand this reality and to proceed on this basis when adopting any decisions concerning bilateral relations and international problems. The exchange of parliamentarians and other representatives of our countries and the frank dialog we have had here with Soviet figures are of tremendous significance for overcoming this distrust and developing U.S.-USSR relations on a mutually advantageous basis."

The congressmen also opposed the use of the "Chinese card" in U.S. relations with the USSR, noting that this would entail a very great risk.

Congressman Charles Vanik, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on International Trade:

"Our coming to the Soviet Union and participation in discussions on prospects for the development of Soviet-American relations [serve] the interests of the United States and the USSR and will favor the process of improving the atmosphere of trust between our peoples. For me questions of developing trade are of paramount importance, and I believe that the conditions are now ripe for a significant expansion of Soviet-American trade, despite the existence of U.S. legislation hindering this. I think that if President Carter made a decision, the U.S. Congress could take positive steps to grant the Soviet Union Most-Favored-Nation status. It is stupid for America to trade with the Soviet Union through third countries. We resent the fact that our Western partners sell the Soviet Union our goods and technology with their own labels on them."

The congressman also expressed confidence that if trade restrictions are lifted, in a few years trade between our countries could sharply increase.

KORNILOV DECRIES U.S. JOURNALIST'S 'DELIRIOUS STORY'

LD251224 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1058 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 25 April--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Another anti-Soviet "sensation" is being put out by the Voice of America: It turns out that the career of Robert Knight, head of the Moscow office of the U.S. Journal U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, all but came to an end in the Soviet town of Tashkent! And it was none other than Knight who informed the transoceanic voice about the circumstances of this dreadful happening. He reported that certain mysterious individuals disguised as "Intourist guides" initially tried to poison him in a Tashkent teahouse by putting a powder they had prepared into his cup of tea, and when Knight lost consciousness, an attempt was made right there, in the crowded teahouse, on the honor of his wife. There is really no limit to the perfidy of the Soviet "secret agents"!

They hear this delirious story in Tashkent and start wondering: Excuse me, but isn't this about the U.S. gentleman who, having recently arrived in the Uzbekistan capital, went on a disgraceful drunken spree on 18 April for numerous visitors to behold? Isn't the Voice of America holding forth about the Knight who, having drunk in the teahouse not an innocent cup of tea at all but a goodly quantity of vodka, smashed dishes, abused the waiters, and, to put it as politely as possible, damaged and soiled the restaurant's furniture, after which he started a brawl in the Hotel Uzbekistan, which is in fact recorded in the corresponding militia report?

We will not keep the reader in suspense any longer: Yes, the Robert Knight who went on a drunken spree in Tashkent and the Robert Knight who all but became the victim of notorious "secret agents" in the same city are one and the same person.

The amazing transformation, as a result of which the Moscow representative of U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT turned from a drunkard and scandalmonger into the hero in this cheap detective story recounted in anti-Soviet tones, happened to Knight when he realized, on coming with difficulty to his senses after his immoderate libations, that his behavior would appear highly unseemly and that he would immediately have to "save face." Knight did not take long on figuring how to do this: He has long been specializing in inventions about "Soviet secret agents" who allegedly followed closely on his heels...

The fantastic story about these notorious "agents" was broadcast through the Voice of America by Mr Knight on the assumption that the mythical "agents" would disguise the unseemly figure of an out-and-out drunkard and a rowdy, and to give the "Tashkent episode" more drama. He likewise thought up the story about the attempt on the honor of Mrs Knight.

The Moscow representative of U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, of course, knows full well that Soviet law severely punishes the (?perpetrators) of violence. But for reasons beyond comprehension it didn't even enter his head to turn to the protection of the law. But the Voice of America, Knight thought, would not go into the details of his excursion to Tashkent and would swallow the very rottenest bait, so long as it had an anti-Soviet savor... and that was what happened.

The Soviet press has more than once remarked that during his work in Moscow, R. Knight won himself a reputation as a diligent supplier of fabrications about the Soviet country, and one need not be amazed that he portrayed his Tashkent adventures in the same slanderous spirit. The surprise is that even this man's most absurd inventions are still in demand, including among some U.S. officials. Things are obviously bad for anti-Sovietists when they do not disdain this--if you will excuse the term--"production," which is born of the flushes of fantasy of the Moscow representative of U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT as a result of his excessive contacts with a vodka bottle.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM HARRISBURG ACCIDENT

LD251055 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 17 Apr 79 p 7 LD

[Article by NOVOSTI political commentator Gennadiy Gerasimov: "Lessons of Harrisburg"]

[Excerpt] Prof Barry Commoner, a pioneer of the American movement to protect the environment, writes in the book "Energy Poverty" that the development of American technology is founded on decisions made not for the sake of "public needs" but in keeping with the "guiding principle of maximum profitability."

But Commoner, like those who have now taken to the streets of many Western cities to protest and demand the abolition of nuclear power generation altogether, goes on to throw the baby out with the bath water. What must be abolished is capitalist usages, which are dangerously distorting the development of the new sector of power generation; not the sector itself.

The evacuated inhabitants of the counties around the capital of the American State of Pennsylvania and those who left of their own accord are returning to their homes. The danger has passed. But although radioactive fallout has fortunately not descended onto the banks of the Susquehanna River, political fallout has been noted in places far removed from Harrisburg, like Sweden, Japan and Argentina. Demonstrators are protesting against the development of nuclear power generation.

Their concern and alarm feed on the mystical nature of the threat, which eludes the human sense organs. Radiation cannot be heard, seen or felt and brings a slow, terrible death. Is it not a biting irony that plutonium, the demonstrators' target, is named for Pluto, the mythological lord of the underworld and the kingdom of the dead?

The "Hiroshima syndrome," to use a term currently in vogue in Western journalism, can be named as another reason for emotion prevailing over reason. This means the memory of the horrors of the first atom bomb multiplied by awareness of the fact that there are now thousands upon thousands of portable, easily launchable and considerably improved nuclear crematories.

Inevitable resistance to new things also plays a role, but an insignificant one, and is mentioned only to complete the picture. There have always been Luddites opposed to looms or steam engines.

If we speak of protection of the environment, including human lives, the public alarm at the state of safety in nuclear power stations is understandable and justified. It is hardly possible to achieve 100-percent reliability in any technical system. But maximum reliability must be aimed for. And, of course, it must not be influenced by such an attendant factor as shareholders' dividends.

Mankind must inevitably take the same path as the peaceful atom. At the world energy conference in Detroit in 1974 specialists predicted that nuclear fuel "will become the chief course of electricity throughout the world."

Demonstrations against the peaceful, creative atom are not only undermining the optimism expressed at the Detroit conference but also diverting attention and forces from the struggle against the real danger--the military use of the atom.

American organizations like the Union of Concerned Scientists or Friends of the Earth and similar movements in other Western countries engaged in the struggle against nuclear reactors are diverting public forces to the detriment of the struggle against nuclear arsenals. And when the Luddite banner is raised against nuclear energy in general, the fundamental difference between the working atom and the armored atom is erased.

On making great discoveries, people and society themselves decide whether to use them for good or for ill. Neutrons in themselves are politically neutral; it is people who give them charges of good or evil. Even fire has served not only the domestic hearth but also the purposes of autos-da-fe. And Prometheus, who gave it to the people, did not think about how it is used in the underworld.

Therefore we should oppose not the atom in general but the real danger of nuclear arms common to all mankind, not nuclear power generation as such but the orientation in society toward private profit at any cost instead of orientation toward the common good.

In conclusion one other lesson of Harrisburg should be noted. What happened there coincided with the development of wide discussion in the United States regarding the Soviet-American SALT agreement. Commentator Rosenfeld wrote an article in the Washington POST expressing the opinion that the accident will help SALT-II, as it has given the American public "the most realistic idea to date of the threat that nuclear war can harbor." And if what happened influences, as Rosenfeld believes, the atmosphere of the debate over SALT-II and contributes to a better understanding by the American public of the need to end the nuclear arms race, this means that the lessons of Harrisburg also include this politically important and useful lesson.

USSR COOPERATION WITH U.S. IN POWER ENGINEERING

LD251430 Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--"Summing up the results of two years of cooperation with the Babcock and Wilcox, a leading American firm in the field of heat and power engineering, we have drawn the conclusion that a further development of our scientific and production contacts on a mutually-beneficial basis will be useful for both sides," a TASS correspondent was told by Viktor Lobanov, USSR deputy minister of power engineering.

A delegation of Soviet experts recently returned from the USA, where it familiarised itself with the course of implementation of the agreement on scientific-technical cooperation between our ministry and the Babcock and Wilcox firm, the deputy minister went on to say. He went to some power plants, built by the firm, in North Dakota and Texas and exchanged scientific-technical information.

The deputy minister pointed out that the USA has only recently started research into the use of hydrogenous coal as boiler fuel for power plants, while Soviet scientists have experience of 30 years in that field. Hydrogenous coal is to become one of the basic fuels in the Soviet power engineering industry, as this country has big reserves of it.

Soviet specialists have commissioned 500 megawatt power generating sets, and it is planned to build several 800 megawatt power generating sets running on hydrogenous coal. The great reserves of low-grade fuel of the Kansk-Achinsk deposit in Siberia will make it possible to create there a powerful energy complex. A further development of heat and power engineering on the basis of hydrogenous coal is planned in Kazakhstan and in the Urals.

The aggregate generating capacity of all the power generating sets of the USSR running on hydrogenous coal is to reach in the future 60 million kilowatt, Viktor Lobanov said.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES U.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE CHAIRMAN

LD241556 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1115 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 24 April--Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today received William Jovanovich, chairman of the board of the American Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Publishing House, who is in Moscow as a guest of the NOVOSTI press agency.

W. Jovanovich conveyed for Leonid Brezhnev a copy of the latter's book "On Peace, Detente and Soviet-American Relations," which has been released in New York by this publishing house.

On behalf of Leonid Brezhnev, Vasiliy Kuznetsov expressed thanks for the book. It was noted that the publication of this book in the United States and acquaintance with it by broad circles of the American public will facilitate the development of [word indistinct] relations between the two countries and the deepening of international detente.

During the course of the conversation, the opinion was expressed that the spreading of correct information, including through publications, is an important contribution to establishing trust between peoples and serves the cause of strengthening general peace.

MORE ON PRC'S PROPOSAL TO U.S. FOR MONITORING BASES

OW251930 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 25 Apr 79 OW

[Text] Holding talks with Vice Premier of the Chinese State Council Deng Xiaoping in Beijing, some U.S. senators touched on the question of setting up U.S. electronic espionage bases in China. Judging from foreign press reports, the Beijing leadership has in principle agreed to this proposal. Shelepin, observer of this station, points out that this is an attempt by Beijing to strengthen Sino-U.S. military cooperation. In this connection, Shelepin writes:

This kind of cooperation already exists. China is buying from the United States communication equipment and electronic computers which can be used for military purposes. China's leaders are prepared to procure military transport and anti-submarine aircraft from the United States. Noted U.S. military experts, such as U.S. former Secretary of Defense Schlesinger, have visited China. They have watched exercises conducted by Chinese troops, thus understanding their combat readiness.

The building in China of espionage bases equipped with U.S. electronic equipment will raise Sino-U.S. military cooperation to a new level. Through such cooperation, China and the United States will certainly exchange information collected through reconnaissance.

Holding talks with U.S. senators, Deng Xiaoping hinted that U.S. warships would be welcome at Chinese ports. The Washington POST pointed out that the Beijing leaders once again expressed that they are interested in U.S. weapons. The paper pointed out that China is prepared to buy modern jet planes from the United States.

The continuous strengthening of the military relations between the two countries reveals the true motive behind the normalization of U.S.-Chinese relations. Propaganda media in both China and the United States have asserted that the normalization of U.S.-Chinese relations is aimed at contributing to the cause of peace in Asia. It is now obvious, however, that it is not aimed at contributing to the cause of peace. People in Beijing and Washington have openly said that this cooperation, including cooperation in the military field, has a tendency toward anti-Sovietism. However, the actual activities carried out by the armed forces of the two countries are mainly in south and Southeast Asia. China attempted to expand into India by armed force and invaded Vietnam on a large scale. The United States waged a long war of aggression against the Indochinese people and is now trying by hook or by crook to remain in a position of strength in order to get militarily involved in Southeast Asia.

It is therefore obvious that the proposal put forward to U.S. senators by Deng Xiaoping, who has called for strengthening U.S.-Chinese military cooperation, lacks any good will toward Southeast Asian countries. The espionage bases proposed to the United States by the Chinese vice premier to be set up in China will facilitate the two big powers' means to watch small countries in this region, to interfere in their internal affairs and to encroach on their sovereignty. Such military facilities can be used by Chinese and American militarists to (?plunder) the people in Southeast Asia, just as the United States committed aggression in Indochina and China invaded Vietnam.

We would like to remind our listeners that out of concern for their sovereignty, the Thai leaders demanded the dismantlement of the U.S. monitoring stations in Thailand. The continuous development of military cooperation between China and the United States makes people think that such cooperation will by no means remain at the present stage in which only technology is provided, experts of the two countries consult with one another and plans are worked out to build military projects. If things continue to develop this way, it will be very possible for China and the United States to take joint military action against freedom-loving Asian countries which are not obedient to them.

U.S. imperialism has played the role of gendarme in Asia many times. After committing aggression against Vietnam, the Beijing leadership apparently wishes to play this ignominious role. The governments of Southeast Asian countries are watching the Beijing leadership's growing aggressive ambitions with concern. In this connection, people cannot but raise this question: How will the Overseas Chinese in those countries act in such a situation? People invariably believe that they will be Beijing's possible accomplices in its military adventures. Overseas Chinese in Vietnam who have been hoodwinked by Beijing's propaganda participated in the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. This makes more and more people believe that Overseas Chinese in Southeast Asian countries will be Beijing's possible accomplices in its military adventures.

China's attempts to strengthen military cooperation with the United States, such as Deng Xiaoping's proposal for setting up espionage bases in China, are probably due to the Beijing militarists' concern about the possibility that Asian countries may take even more high-handed measures against Overseas Chinese and impair the latter's interests.

DENG XIAOPING INFORMED U.S. OF PLAN TO INVADE SRV

OW251206 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 24 Apr 79 OW

[Text] Bush, former head of the U.S. Liaison Office in Beijing and former director of the CIA, said that the United States knew in advance that the Chinese leaders would launch an armed aggression against Vietnam. According to an AP report, during his visit to the United States, Deng Xiaoping personally informed Bush of China's plan for aggression. Bush said he conveyed to the U.S. State Department what he had learned from Deng Xiaoping. In this connection, please listen to the following commentary by Mulatov:

The AP report reminds us of a remark Deng Xiaoping made during his visit to the United States: It is necessary to teach Vietnam a good lesson and punish it. One needs little effort to realize from this remark that the Chinese leaders were preparing to launch a piratic attack against Vietnam. It is now apparent to everyone that Deng Xiaoping not only publicly made a general remark but also privately informed the former CIA director of China's plan to invade its socialist neighbor in specific terms. In my opinon the fact that the Chinese leaders had to explain to the United States ruling clique in advance the plan to invade Vietnam reflects the essence of the foreign policy of Mao Zedong's successors. They have regularly solicited instructions from the imperialists so that Mao's successors' actions match the imperialists' strategy. They formulate their policy not on the basis of Chinese national interests but on the basis of the imperialist scheme to seriously damage the world socialist system.

Supported by imperialism, China opposes the socialist countries. Was this the goal of the struggle conducted by the older generation of Chinese revolutionaries against reactionaries of all shades within the country and against international imperialism? The Beijing leadership wants to become the gendarme of the Indochinese people. Is that the reason the Chinese people founded the People's Republic? Of course not. The Chinese people want neither to invade Socialist Vietnam nor to become the enemy of the Soviet Union and other countries in the world socialist system.

All realistic people in China understand that the Beijing leadership's bloody policy is a grave misfortune for the Chinese people. A wallposter condemning the upper echelon's pro-imperialist policy, which was displayed in the center of the Chinese capital a few days ago, is clear proof of this. The wallposter was displayed in defiance of the authorities' ban and police regulations. Some anti-imperialist cartoons were also displayed in the same place. From this we realize that the Chinese people know that the present Beijing leaders' foreign policy is unacceptable and dangerous.

TENSION IN U.S.-JAPANESE 'TRADE WAR' GROWS ACUTE

LD251514 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 25, TASS--TASS correspondent Gennadiy Rakhovestkiy reports:

With the approach of Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira's official visit to the USA, scheduled for late April-early May, and his talks with U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the Japanese-American "trade war" is growing sharper.

Japan's increased expansion in the American market and Japanese protectionist policies against imports have led up to a tremendous chronic deficit in the United States' trade with Japan. Last year this deficit reached 11.6 billion dollars. The United States, angered by such policies, accused Japan of violating the principles of "free trade" and demanded radical steps by Japan to balance two-way trade. The United States threatened that otherwise the American Congress would take drastic repressive measures against Japan.

The series of trade talks held between the two countries this year, far from easing the situation, only further aggravated differences between them. "The trade war" has become a serious political problem in U.S.-Japanese relations. Therefore on the eve of Masayoshi Ohira's visit to the USA, Japan made some concessions and agreed that the Japanese Government will purchase in the USA 6.5 billion dollars worth of goods for Japanese national enterprises and cut soon customs tariffs in accordance with the agreement which was reached recently during the Tokyo round of multilateral trade talks. This is a maximum of what Japanese can offer to the USA and it would be very difficult for Japan to make any new concessions, the Japanese side stressed.

At a meeting in Washington on Tuesday between Robert Strauss, special representative of the U.S. President to the trade talks, and the Japanese Ambassador to the USA Fumihiko Togo, the American side qualified Japanese proposals as "unsatisfactory" and demanded further concessions from it. All this caused confusion among Japanese ruling circles. As was reported by KYODO TSUSHIN, a high-ranking representative of the Japanese Government, who preferred to remain anonymous, said today that it is now very difficult for Japan to reach agreement with the USA on removing friction in two-way trade before Masayoshi Ohira's visit to the USA.

PRC'S DENG YINCHAO VISITS 'OLD FRIENDS' IN JAPAN

LD192134 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 19 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 19, TASS--The visit to Japan of a delegation of the National People's Congress of China, headed by Deng Yinchao, vice-chairman of the congress's standing committee, has ended here. The delegation used its trip for raising an anti-Soviet hullabaloo and drawing Japan into Beijing's adventuristic policy.

Addressing a press conference in Tokyo Deng Yinchao urged Japan to align with China in order to "blockade" the Soviet Union in Asia. During a meeting with businessmen and in public statements Deng Yinchao advocated Japan's participation in China's "four modernisations". She did not stint promises and painted brilliant prospects for Japanese-Chinese trade. These pronouncements of the leader of the Chinese delegation came at the time when the Japanese companies were feverishly calculating the losses they had incurred due to their Chinese partners' unilateral freezing of most of the concluded contracts. The total sum of the deals that China has renounced amounts to almost 2,700 million dollars. The total sum of the initially concluded deals amounted to 3,700 million dollars.

The press reports that during her stay on the Japanese islands Deng Yinchao had meetings with the Overseas Chinese, Beijing's fifth column in Japan. She did not forget also China's "old friends"--ex-prime ministers Kakuei Tanaka and Takeo Fukuda. It is common knowledge that Kakuei Tanaka, initiator of the restoration of Japanese-Chinese relations, is now being tried on charges of taking bribes. Takeo Fukuda, who signed the notorious treaty of "peace and friendship" with China, is suspected of shady deals with the U.S. aircraft concern Grumman.

MPRP DELEGATION BECOMES ACQUAINTED WITH KIRGIZIAN RURAL LIFE

LD251205 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 12 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[KIRTAG report: "Visit to Kirgizia by MPRP Delegation"]

[Text] Kirgizia is extending a warm reception to the MPRP delegation which is familiarizing itself with the republic party organization's experience of work to lead the intensive development of agricultural production. The delegation is headed by N. Jagbaral, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee. The guests from the fraternal country have visited the Lenin Kolkhoz in Talasskiy Rayon, the Talas Kolkhoz and the Kainda sheep-raising complex in Kirovskiy Rayon. They have looked over the Kirovskoye Reservoir which provides moisture for the grainfields, perennial grass crops and other agricultural crops in the Talasskaya valley and adjoining rayons of neighboring Kazakhstan.

On the Susamyr pasture the Mongolian friends showed interest in the activity of the republic's first head sheep-raising association which has been set up there. They familiarized themselves with the work of the treatment and sanitation and shearing centers, the shepherds' work and daily life and the studies and life of the livestock-raisers' children in the boarding schools. The well-organized medical, cultural and consumer services of the livestock-raisers and their families made a great impression on the guests.

"The trip has been very useful and instructive," N. Jagbaral said, sharing his impressions. "For us Kirgizia is a real university of agricultural knowledge and organization of cultured leisure for rural working people. We will certainly make use of everything that we have seen on our return home. Our brothers' experience will help us to achieve new successes in developing agriculture and particularly livestock-raising...."

The MPRP delegation is continuing to acquaint itself with the life and production experiences of Kirgizia's rural working people. The delegation is being accompanied on its tour of the republic by: P.I. Naumov, secretary of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee; N.G. Minich, member of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Republic People's Control Committee; I.S. Muratalin, chief of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Agriculture Department; S. Tursunov, Mirgiz SSR Minister of Agriculture; and S. Tilebaliyev, chief of a Kirgiz CP Central Committee sector.

The delegation of Mongolian friends is being accompanied on its tour of Kirgizia by N.S. Derevyanko, chief of a CPSU Central Committee sector.

PUBLICITY FOR FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF AFGHAN APRIL REVOLUTION

Successful First Year

LD241838 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 24, TASS--On April 27 the Afghan people will celebrate the first anniversary of the revolution which overthrew the tyrannical regime and opened up the way for constructing a new society without exploitation of man by man. One year of building a new society is a short period. Nevertheless much has been accomplished within it. Of great importance was the adoption of the land reform act which provided a basis for eliminating pre-feudal and feudal rural relationships. By now 132,000 peasant families who previously had no or little land have been given free of charge over 1,340,000 jeribs of land (one jerib is equal to 0.2 hectares). At present the process of alloting land to peasants is going on practically in all regions of the country. Ceremonies of presenting peasants with land ownership documents are usually celebrated as great occasions which attests to the strong support of the measures taken by the Afghan leadership on the part of the peasantry. The more successful the people's government, the more hostile are former feudals, exploiters and reactionary elements who hatch plots against the April revolution. Propaganda lies, ignoring achievements in Afghanistan, financial and military support to counter-revolutionary elements--such methods are widely used by imperialist quarters, reactionaries and left-wing extremists who want to intimidate the Afghan people and undermine the revolution's gains. Kabul's Mayor S. Sher Aga, a well known Afghan public figure, told a TASS correspondent that his people are determined to fight back the attacks by reactionary forces. Their attempts to reverse the course of events in the country are doomed to failure because the working people of Afghanistan have become true masters of their destiny.

Afghan Ambassador on Soviet Friendship

LD252146 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--The Soviet people acclaim the successes achieved by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in its efforts to build a new life. The goodneighbour relations between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR, permeated as they are by the spirit of friendship and revolutionary solidarity, are developing and growing stronger in the interests of both states and world peace. This was stressed at the meeting of Soviet-Afghan friendship, devoted to the first anniversary of the April revolution in Afghanistan. The meeting was held here today. Mohammad Paktin, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the Soviet Union, noted that a new stage of fraternity and goodneighbourliness was ushered in in the relations between the two countries after the victory of the April revolution in Afghanistan.

Soviet Peace Committee Greetings

LD252226 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--A meeting with the Ambassador Mohammad Paktin, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the USSR, was held today at the Soviet Peace Committee in connection with the international week of solidarity with Afghanistan, held on the initiative of the World Peace Council, and the first anniversary of the April revolution.

The representatives of the Soviet public circles voiced the Soviet peace champions' support to the efforts exerted by the Afghan people to build a new society, to their struggle against the intrigues of the enemies of the revolution, for the country's development in conditions of peace and security. It was stressed that the treaty of friendship, goodneighbourhood and cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was regarded by the Soviet people as a new confirmation of the growing and developing friendly relations between the Soviet and the Afghan peoples. The Soviet Peace Committee has addressed a message of greetings to the Afghan Committee of Peace and Solidarity containing the Soviet people's wishes of further successes to the Afghan people in their endeavours to build a new democratic society, wishes of progress and prosperity in conditions of peace and security.

Developing Afghan-Soviet Relations

LD252228 Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--"The Afghan people, who are celebrating the first anniversary of the April revolution, enjoy the appreciation of all true friends, the appreciation of the Soviet people, who are linked with the friendly republic by relations of cooperation and genuine solidarity", it was stated by Minister Sergey Antonov, who is chairman of the Soviet Society of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Afghanistan. Sergey Antonov gave an interview to a TASS correspondent on the occasion of the national holiday of Afghanistan.

Throughout the 60 years of diplomatic relations between the two circles the Soviet Union has been a sincere friend of Afghanistan, the minister said. Our relations have now become of a qualitatively new character. Today, as noted by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, "this is no longer mere goodneighbourhood, but a deep, sincere and lasting friendship permeated by the spirit of comradeship and revolutionary solidarity."

Relations between the two countries have grown deeper in all spheres, Antonov said. Contacts have become much broader between the friendship societies of the two countries. The first agreement and plan for cultural cooperation between the two societies for the current and future years has been signed. The activities of the Soviet and Afghan friendship societies contribute greatly to the strengthening of fraternal relations between the USSR and Afghanistan. They benefit the peoples of both countries, serve the cause of "peace, friendship and cooperation between them", Sergey Antonov stressed.

Taraki Speech on Afghan Policy

LD251852 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 25, TASS--"Afghanistan is pursuing an independent policy and will allow nobody to encroach upon its achievements," it was stated by N.M. Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who delivered a speech at a meeting with tribal eldermen of Paktia Province.

The internal and external enemies of the Afghan people, including the reactionary circles in Pakistan, he said, continue to hatch plots against Afghanistan. The enemies have attacked our country and received a worthy rebuff more than once. Behind the smoke-screen of false accusations they are endeavouring to slur the people's government of our country.

These accusations are refuted by life itself. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has always acted and will go on acting in the interests of the Afghan people. It will allow no interference in the internal affairs of the country. The toadies of imperialism, N. M. Taraki continued, are endeavoring to defile our achievements, claiming that "desecration of the holy Islam religion" is allegedly under way in Afghanistan. London radio does not disdain such propaganda, too. Touching on the land reform in the country, the chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan said that this reform did not contradict the principles of Islam. The people's government is carrying on its work on the basis of justice. It distributes land free of charge, has cancelled debts and put an end to [word indistinct]. The overwhelming majority of the country's religious leaders support our goals.

AAPSO Greetings

LD251548 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, April 25, TASS--The April revolution in Afghanistan signified a crushing defeat for imperialism in that region, states a message of greetings of the secretary general of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization to the Afghan people to mark the anniversary of its victory. The message published here highly appraises the successes of the Afghan people it has ahieved during this period under the guidance of the popular government of the DRA. The people and the government of the young republic not only managed to consolidate the revolutionary gains, but also to start the implementation of a long-range program of drastic socio-economic changes, and the construction of a new life in the country. Afghanistan's revolutionary government, the message indicates, is playing an ever more active role in the struggle against imperialism in the non-alignment movement, and is upholding the interests of the entire progressive mankind.

The General Secretariat of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization resolutely condemns the plots which are being engineered against the Afghan people by its enemies. The message points out that the Chinese leaders and Pakistan's reactionary circles provide refuge for Afghan reactionary elements, arm them and instigate them to commit crimes against their people. The organization declares its full solidarity with the Afghan people.

War Against Illiteracy

LD241858 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 24, TASS--Fazelrahman Katti, chairman of the National Committee of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on irradicating illiteracy, said that on the eve of the April revolution's anniversary millions of Afghans will take their seats at the desks to learn to read and write. The country has declared war on illiteracy which is an obstacle to the social and economic development of Afghan society. He told a TASS correspondent that at present nearly 800,000 people were learning to read and write in towns and the remotest villages, at factories and offices. Most teachers work during their off-duty time and they are not paid for this. Progressively-minded Afghan intellectuals resolutely support measures taken by the people's government to stamp out illiteracy. For the first time in Afghan history women began to attend the courses.

The National Committee is doing very much to organize and stream-line the educational process.

Its staff, helped by specialists from the republican Ministry of Primary Education and the recently established Academy of Sciences, prepared textbooks in Dari and Pushtu, two official languages. Those attending the courses are not only taught to read and write but also learn about the cardinal changes being made in the country for the benefit of the working people. Fazelrahman Katti said in conclusion that within the five year period over eight million Afghans aged from nine to fifty will learn to read and write and take their place in the ranks of the builders of a new society in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

INDIAN PAPER SCORES U.S., PRC BACKING OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

LD241836 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 24, TASS--The Indian public condemns resolutely the foreign interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, says the Indian newspaper PATRIOT. The Afghan Government's line of carrying out progressive socio-economic reforms does not suit some people in Washington and Beijing, the newspaper notes. Using the territory of states bordering on Afghanistan, they are helping the Afghan reaction to escalate subversive activities against the new government.

There are quite a few proofs, the newspaper says, that Chinese military advisers, through Pakistani officers, supply arms to the reactionaries that had fled from Afghanistan, are training them for open counter-revolutionary activities. The United States has assumed the financing of this an unseemly operation by providing large sums of money to the rebels.

AFGHAN OFFICIAL WELCOMES SOVIET GIFT OF WHEAT

LD242154 Moscow TASS in English 2027 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 24, TASS--Abdolgoddus Ghorbandi, minister of trade of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, qualified as a manifestation of genuine [words indistinct] the inter-government agreement on the Soviet Union's free-of-charge delivery of 100,000 tons of wheat to the friendly Afghan people, which was signed here today. This agreement, the minister stressed, is another vivid example of the unselfish, fraternal friendship between the peoples of the two countries, the foundations of which were laid by the great Lenin and received further development after the victory of the April revolution in Afghanistan and the signing of the treaty of friendship, good-neighborhood and cooperation between the USSR and DRA. The agreement was signed for the Soviet side by the ambassador of the USSR to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Aleksandr Puzanov, and for the Afghan side by Abdolgoddus Ghorbandi, minister of trade of Afghanistan.

BRIEFS

BANGLADESH THERMAL POWER STATION--Dacca, April 22, TASS--The first graduation ceremony was held at the training center at the thermal power station in Gorasal, the biggest thermal power-station in Bangladesh. The center was organized with the assistance of Soviet engineers who train Bangladesh citizens as power engineers. The thermal power station in Gorasal that was commissioned in April, 1976, was built with Soviet technical assistance. It meets a considerable part of Bangladesh's need in electricity. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 22 Apr 79 LD]

REPORTAGE ON NATO NUCLEAR GROUP SESSION CONTINUES

Claims of Inadequate Protection

LD252330 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Viktor Viktorov commentary]

[Text] We now turn to one of the U.S. Air Force bases in Homestead, Florida, the United States, where a session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group is underway. A comment from our observer Viktor Viktorov.

The talks are being held in the atmosphere of strict secrecy yet judging from reports that have leaked into the press the defense ministers of the eight NATO countries went to the session with the sole purpose of discussing NATO's nuclear build-up in Western Europe. The European Continent is already stuffed thickly with weapons of mass destruction. Over 7,000 American nuclear warheads and some 3,000 nuclear arms carriers are deployed in Western Europe, but all this appears to be not enough for the Pentagon. It's exerting pressure on its NATO partners, suggesting that they should place on their territories cruise missiles, or rockets of the Pershing-II type. These latest nuclear missile systems are sometimes referred to as medium-range missiles, as weapons of the gray or intermediary zone, weapons of the Eurostrategic class.

No matter what label is glued to them the general purpose of NATO's plans is obvious, to (?range) these missiles against the Soviet Union and its socialist allies in Europe. NATO strategists are seeking various classifications for their plans of a nuclear build-up in Europe. Some claims that NATO lacks enough protection from the Soviet missile SS-20, as it is known in NATO records. There is nothing original about the claim. Anyone who followed the developments of the postward period can recall easily that every first step in any new round of the arms race was invariably made by the United States. That's how it was throughout the entire period from the appearance of the A bomb up to our time, and the launching of any new round of the arms race was always accompanied with the noisy clamor about a Soviet threat. The same is happening right now.

NATO officials speak about the need to catch up with the Soviet Union in the area of nuclear missiles. They also hope to achieve NATO's military superiority over the Warsaw Treaty countries. As the Washington POST maintained, the weapons of the gray zone will be used to deal the first strike at targets on the territories of the Warsaw Treaty countries. In this context it becomes clear why the NATO countries prefer to keep silent about the Soviet Union's proposals. This country declared on many occasions that it favors the limitation of nuclear and any other arms rather than their buildup. This also applies to the medium-range arms in Europe.

The Homestead session proves that NATO strategists are reluctant to make any agreements on this (?score). Theirs is an extremely dangerous line. The deployment of the nuclear weapons of the Eurostrategic class, and equally the deployment of the neutron bomb in Europe, may only lead to the heightening of international tension. It may spur on the arms race to another spiral, and what's more, it may intensify the danger for the European countries that they are to get the latest means of mass destruction from the Pentagon.

In short, fear the Greeks when they bring gifts.

Neutron Bomb Discussion

LD252330 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1754 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Washington, April 25, TASS--Plans for the further growth and modernization of NATO's nuclear missile capacities are being discussed at a session of the Nuclear Planning Group of this aggressive military bloc, which is taking place at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida.

According to a report by the New York TIMES, the defense ministers of the seven member countries of NATO are examining the question of production and deployment in West Europe of new types of missiles of American manufacture. The NATO strategists are trying to justify these dangerous plans with insistent references to the growth in "Soviet arms" in central Europe that is supposedly occurring.

Pentagon representatives at the session, as the press points out, have once again raised the question of including in NATO armaments the American neutron bomb. In the Pentagon and the National Security Council, the New York TIMES points out in this connection, it is thought that it is time for the White House to reexamine the previously adopted decision shelving production of the neutron bomb. All the "preparatory work" for starting production of the neutron bomb has been already done. Speaking yesterday at a press conference in Washington, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell recalled that last October President J. Carter ordered the modernization of the Lance missile and artillery shells, so that they could be fitted with neutron warheads if necessary.

Agreement 'in Principle'

LD251440 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Defense ministers of the eight NATO countries continue their meeting at an air base in Florida; they are discussing the buildup of the bloc's nuclear potential on the territory of Western Europe. While spreading fabrications about a Soviet threat, representatives of the United States are trying to have its allies agree to deploying in their countries new U.S. nuclear missiles capable of carrying neutron warheads. According to Western news agencies, such an agreement in principle has been secured and that despite the fact that the public in Western Europe is deeply worried over NATO plans. Those plans will increase confrontation on the continent and enhance the danger of an outbreak of a nuclear conflict.

NATO ARMAMENTS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS ENDS

LD252322 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1957 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Report by TASS correspondent Albert Balebanov]

[Text] Brussels, April 25, TASS--At the North Atlantic bloc headquarters a 2-day conference of the leaders of the national directorates on armanents of the NATO member countries has ended. The bulletin NOUVELLES ATLANTIQUE reports that coordination of national armament programs, production of new types of weapons, long-term military research plans, and logistic problems for armament programs were discussed. As a result of the session, a number of its participants decided to sign bilateral and multilateral "memoranda" which anticipate the lifting of controls on reciprocal purchases of arms. In essence, the matter concerns a new spiral in the growth of NATO's military capacities.

The undersecretary of defense for research and engineering of the U.S. Department of Defense, W. Perry, reiterated to his partners in the session the necessity for activating work on the creation of new weapons systems. He chiefly demanded the application of efforts to produce a "new generation of antitank weapons." W. Perry called on the West European members of the bloc to increase military expenditures.

The local press notes that the United States in its arms trade with West Europe has a "positive balance." This is not surprising, since the U.S. military-industrial complex has monopolized the profitable NATO market for dumping arms. The conference of the national directorates on armaments has shown that the United States does not wish to give up this market to anybody.

MONDALE SCANDINAVIA TRIP A PRELUDE TO NATO NUCLEAR TALKS

LD251219 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Article by B. Gradov under the rubric "On Topical Themes": "A Visit With a Point"]

[Text] U.S. Vice President W. Mondale has completed a tour of northern Europe. He visited four NATO countries--Iceland, Norway, Denmark and Holland--and also neutral Finland and Sweden, where he met with the heads of government and cabinet members.

Foreign news agencies, commenting on the American vice president's journey, note that Mondale has always paid a great deal of attention to Scandinavia. They point out that he is of Norwegian extraction. But this factor is not crucial here and the U.S. administration's heightened interest is no accident.

The main purpose of the trip, according to many commentators, was to strengthen NATO's northern flank. Along with vague arguments about the "stability of the international situation" Mondale urged the NATO countries to increase their contributions to the bloc's military budget. In Reykjavik, for example, he tried to get the Icelandic Government to agree to keep the large NATO military base at Keflavik. He demanded that the Norwegian Government unswervingly fulfill the decisions of last year's NATO Council session aimed at stepping up the arms race. The vice president talked about U.S. plans to create on Norwegian territory a so-called "system for the contingency stockpiling of American weapons."

In Denmark "the Eurostrategy commercial traveler," as the Western press called Mondale, made a big effort to persuade the local authorities to increase their military expenditure. However, according to the Danish papers, these exhortations got a fairly chilly reception in Copenhagen. Danish Prime Minister A. Jorgensen resolutely refused to support the plans for modernizing nuclear arms in Western Europe.

During the U.S. vice president's stay in the Scandinavian countries and Holland the populace demonstrated against the Pentagon's dangerous plans to begin production of the neutron bomb and deploy this barbaric weapons on West European territory. A widespread progressive public movement has developed in the Netherlands against the neutron bomb and other weapons of mass destruction. Here the White House envoy did not venture to touch on specific questions relating to building up arms. Nevertheless, he discussed with the Dutch leadership NATO's general approach to methods of countering the imaginary "threat from the East."

As we can see, the American visitor's baggage was pretty uniform. [paragraph continues]

Needless to say, you don't get far along the path of relaxation of tension with baggage like that. Nor did Walter Mondale have such tasks in mind, by all appearances. The purposes of the visit were of the opposite kind and the trip was undoubtedly timed with the NATO Nuclear Planning Group session which opens in the United States at the end of April in mind. It is no secret that the session will once again discuss the neutron weapons--the production of which is being sought by U.S. military circles and the medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads which the Pentagon hopes to install in West European countries. Certain commentators are remarking that Washington, despite the agreement in principle which has been reached not to increase military potential in Europe while the talks on arms reduction are proceeding, is attempting in accordance with the "new U.S. strategy" to deploy in European countries tactical weapons aimed against the USSR. And so the American vice-president's trip must be regarded primarily as a prelude to the session which is being prepared. It was precisely this at the manipulation of Mondale's interlocutors was aimed in the countries he visited.

But the intention of stepping up the arms race and transforming West Europe into a powder keg does not accord with the interests of detente and does not guarantee security for the peoples of the European continent who are resolutely opposed to these aggressive NATO schemes.

BUNDESWEHR GROUND FORCES REORGANIZATION STEPS DESCRIBED

LD231327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 79 p 3 LD

[Col A. Markov article "From Foreign Press Information" under the rubric "In Foreign Armies and Navies": "The Bundeswehr: Mark Four"]

[Text] It is known that the FRG makes the biggest military contribution to NATO in comparison with its West European partners in the North Atlantic bloc. Bundeswehr servicemen, the newspaper DIE WELT wrote, make up 50 percent of the bloc's ground forces in the central European theater, Bundeswehr air forces account for 30 percent of all NATO's combat aircraft, and 70 percent of NATO naval ships in the Baltic sail under the FRG flag. Bundeswehr units and formations, according to the assessment by the bloc's command, showed themselves to be the best trained and best equipped during the major series of fall and winter exercises and maneuvers held in 1978-1979 within the framework of NATO.

However, those persons in the FRG who are responsible for military policy are not satisfied with the level of combat might achieved by the Bundeswehr. Using as camouflage references to the country's special situation and the imaginary threat of "attack from the East," they are demanding the further strengthening of the West German Armed Forces.

On the basis of this deliberately fabricated and false premise, the FRG is continuing to build up its military potential and is expanding its contribution to the North Atlantic bloc. Within the bloc it ranks second, after the United States, in military expenditure and plays an active part in the implementation of the long-term program for strengthening NATO. Here the West German military leadership is showing special interest in the bloc's current standardization of hardware and weapons, counting thereby on increasing the troops' combat capability, developing its own military industry base, and reducing the time taken for its mobilization, deployment and the transition to the production of military products.

In accordance with this course of further stepping up militarist preparations in the FRG, the implementation of a new program to modernize and reorganize the structure of the country's armed forces has commenced.

In the opinion of FRG Defense Minister H. Apel, this program is to insure better potential for the implementation of the NATO "forward borders" concept, that is, the creation of groupings of forces in direct proximity to socialist states' borders, and to make the policy of "deterrence" more convincing.

This is the fourth reorganization of the Bundeswehr during its existence. The Bundeswehr Mark One, at its official birth on 12 November 1955, was wholly based on the organization of the American Army, in which each division consisted of three combat groups. Mark Two was based on a unified structure for the NATO member countries--the 59 divisions, which consisted of three brigades intended to wage hostilities independently for a period of 5 days. Supply subunits were included in the brigades. The distinctive feature of the ground forces' third reorganization was their amalgamation with territorial forces and the formation of special "rear defense troops." Infantry (jaeger) brigades and tank regiments were created as an operational reserve for the corps.

The transition to the new model, Mark Four, will mainly affect the structure of the ground and territorial forces. It is proposed to carry out the reorganization in the next 5-6 years. Its aim is to strengthen the troops' combat might by reequipping them with more modern military hardware--mainly tank, missile and antiaircraft hardware, improving the organizational and mobilization structure, making them more mobile and improving control by providing formations and units with an abundance of automated systems. In the territorial forces under the new structure, the role and equipment of the so-called "rear defense troops" is strengthened considerably. They are receiving heavy arms and their combat potential, numerical strength, and ability to give effective support to troops at the "forward borders," are being increased.

It is proposed to completely renew the Bundeswehr's motor vehicle pool and improve the system of material supply and backup for the troops.

In accordance with the new organizational structure the ground forces will have 36 brigades (formerly 33): 17 tank brigades, 16 motorized infantry brigades, 3 airborne brigades, and also 3 regiments of antitank helicopters. All the brigades except the airborne are brought together into 11 divisions: 5 tank divisions, 3 motorized infantry, 2 infantry and 1 mountain infantry. All the divisions will consist solely of tank and motorized infantry brigades. As a result, the Bundeswehr's supply of tanks, infantry combat vehicles and armored personnel carriers will increase considerably. No other army in the capitalist world has such a high percentage of armored troops.

The airborne brigades and antitank helicopter regiments are being transferred to the command of three Bundeswehr army corps.

In the regular structure of tank and motorized infantry brigades there will now be four battalions instead of three, and in the battalions--four companies instead of the present three. But in peacetime the fourth battalions and companies will consist of cadres only [budut kadrirovannyye]. Should the need arise the fourth battalions will be developed from the fourth cadres companies, supplemented from a "constant standby" reserve. The numerical strength of tank and motorized infantry companies will be slightly reduced. Each tank company will have 13 tanks (formerly 17), and each motorized infantry company will have 11 (formerly 13) combat vehicles or 10 armored personnel carriers. Soldiers will join subunits after training at special training centers.

In the territorial forces the so-called "rear defense troops" will undergo the most substantial changes. It is planned to reinforce the existing 6 commands of these troops with 2 tank battalions and 1 artillery division and to make the structure equivalent to that of motorized infantry brigades.

These commands are intended to reinforce the Bundeswehr ground forces which are given over to the NATO Allied Armed Forces. Thus each command will have 2 tank battalions (with 41 tanks each), 2 motorized infantry battalions and an artillery division (18 105mm howitzers). In peacetime the composition of commands will vary from 52 to 65 percent of establishment.

The territorial forces will receive an extra 6 heavy regiments, with organization similar to that of brigades. Each regiment will consist of 3 battalions (1 tank and 2 motorized infantry) and an artillery division. In peacetime these regiments will remain as cadre regiments only [Kadrirovannyy], that is, they will have a staff, arms and a small number of personnel, but will be able to be extended to full numerical strength in 48 hours. They are intended for operations in the rear zone of the army corps and can be used to resolve tasks facing the corps. As a result of these measures the territorial forces will have in their armory 650 M-48 tanks from the Bundeswehr ground forces' armory and reequipped with 105 mm guns.

Apart from 150 companies and 300 platoons for defending installations in the rear, 15 regiments for defending regions in the rear (made up of 45 infantry battalions in total) are deployed in the territorial forces.

The defense regiments are subordinate to the staffs of military districts, and the companies and platoons--to local defense staffs.

As FRG Defense Minister H. Apel stated, the new organizational structure of the ground forces does not provide for an increase in their numerical strength, which will remain at the level of 340,000 men. On mobilization it will increase to 660,000. In order to improve mobilization readiness the so-called "constant standby" reserve [rezerv "postoyannoy gotovnosti"], which is created from reserve servicemen, is being expanded and the number of reservists called annually for regular retraining in the subunits to which they are attached is being increased (to 200,000). To this end the number of centers for military training of reservists is being considerably increased (from 4,000 to nearly 6,000).

The reorganization which is being carried out, the West German press notes, is intended to significantly improve the combat readiness of Bundeswehr ground forces and make their deployment in case of necessity independent of the implementation of mobilization measures in the country. Moreover, the reorganization pursues the goal of having brigades made up of smaller, well-controlled combat subunits distinguished by high maneuverability and strike and fire power, and more suitable for operations in the conditions of the European theater. The territorial forces, in accordance with the designs of the authors of the reform, are to acquire the capability for destroying airborne and sea assault forces and enemy tank subunits and units which have broken through.

At the same time the modernization will also affect other branches of the armed forces. The reequipping of the air forces with sophisticated aircraft will continue and naval ships will receive more modern missile weapons. Air defense missile systems are also being modernized. It has been reported that by the end of the eighties about DM40 billion will be spent on the entire modernization program.

Such is the new Bundeswehr--Mark Four. To use FRG Defense Minister H. Apel's words, it "combines leadership, training, structure and arms in a unified logical system based on the political, military and technical conditions of the next 10 years." Conditions, of course, as FRG and NATO military leaders understand them.

DEUTSCHE BUNDESBANK PRESIDENT VISITS USSR 13-22 APR

LD250953 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] O. Emminger, president of the FRG's central bank, the Deutsche Bundesbank, was in the USSR from 13-22 April at the invitation of the USSR Gosbank. Questions of expanding Soviet-West German currency, financial and interbank relations were examined in detail. O. Emminger also had meetings in the USSR Foreign Trade Bank, the International Bank for Economic Cooperation and the International Investment Bank.

EXPANSION OF FRG ESPIONAGE NETWORK ABROAD OBSERVED

LD182320 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--The weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] draws attention to the expansion of West Germany's espionage network. In a comment on the changes in the federal intelligence service, following which not a military man, but a civilian, Klaus Kinkel, until recently a high-ranking official at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, was appointed for the first time as director of the intelligence agency, the weekly writes: "Western commentators link Kinkel's appointment with the wider use of diplomatic jobs as cover-ups for intelligence officers abroad. It is believed that this will result in closer coordination of the activity of all secret services of the FRG, mainly, in collecting information about the Soviet Union and other socialist countries." The expansion of West Germany's spying activity is also seen, writes Berlin's magazine NBI, from a considerable increase in 1979 of allocations for special services' operations.

BELGIAN GENERAL'S 'ANTI-SOVIET MANIC DEPRESSION' DECRIED

LD191100 Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 18 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--TASS political analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

Some time will pass and the description of the syndrome of General Close will be featured in all medical reference books. Things are moving in this direction, for the disease from which Belgian Brigadier General Robert Close has been suffering over many years is too characteristic. The disease assumed a particularly acute form in the recent days. On April 18, he declared in the French newspaper L'AURORE that "Soviet military menace to the West is inevitable".

If this were the first time he had the bout of the disease. [sentence as received] All people that have some medical knowledge are excellently aware that many serious ills are curable in the initial stage, but the anti-Soviet ailment of the NATO general is a chronic one.

Let us recall how his disease was developing in the past. In March, 1976, he had an acute bout of "fear of the Soviets". It was manifested in his publishing in the London TIMES of his ravings about inevitability of a Soviet attack on Western Europe. A dangerous aggravation of the disease happened the same year, and he published the NATO "secret report" that forces of the Warsaw Treaty can reach the Rhine in 48 hours time.

General Close expressed the same fixed idea in his book "Europe Sans Defence?" that was published in 1977. The author created the following "horrifying picture": At the dawn on a Sunday morning in summer, at five a.m. 3,000 tanks, 500 helicopters with the use of several thousand agents stationed in the FRG break through the "iron curtain" and reach by the evening the western banks of the Rhine....

Specialists sighed and suggested that the general should take a rest. This recommendation was confirmed in the order of the day of the Belgian defence minister who decided that General Close should stop coming out with public statements about "unhampered and fast advance of Russian troops via Western Germany, further west". The general's trips over Belgium to read lectures publicising his own book that contains such ravings were banned with the humane aim of enabling the general to restore his deteriorating health. It was also suggested that the general should return from Brussels to the place of the deployment of an armoured division which Robert Close commanded in the spells of time between the bouts of his disease.

The general complied with these suggestions but in twelve months, early this year, his state was causing serious concern again. Close suddenly returned to Brussels and declared publicly again that a "threat of an attack to central Europe from the East remains". The general suffering from the syndrome again started to cite his own work which, by the way, was by then assessed negatively even by NATO leading bodies.

For some time the general's doctors and family could cope somehow with the patient's anti-Soviet manic depression but then he came out with the afore-mentioned publication in L'AURORE.

The general is evidently obsessed with the same mad idea. Persons who are close to him remember well what was the end of the similar disease of American General Forrestal. Shouting "Russians are coming", he jumped out the window. Therefore, no matter where General Close is staying he is invariably given rooms on the ground floor.

SWISS LABOR PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD252050 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--A Swiss Party of Labour delegation headed by the party's General Secretary Armand Magnin arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

STATE OF EMERGENCY IN TURKEY TO BE EXTENDED

LD252252 Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Ankara, April 25, TASS--By a majority of votes of deputies and senators the Turkish parliament endorsed today the government decision to extend the state of emergency in the 13 vilayets including Ankara and Istanbul.

It has also been decided to introduce a state of emergency in another six areas of eastern Anatolia.

The state of emergency was introduced in the country's biggest vilayets since the end of 1978 as a response to the rampant terror and violence from the ultra-right wing and leftist groups.

SOVIETS COMMENT ON EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION

Comic Meaning of Word 'Peace'

LD251746 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Separatist Treaty Comes Into Force"]

[Text] In the heart of Sinai, specifically at the U.S. early-warning base, a ceremony will be held today to exchange instruments of ratification of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty which its authors call a peace treaty. It seems a great ceremony was considered necessary to fit this great occasion as they call it.

However, the Egyptian side to the treaty, which has rightly been called the anti-Arab separatists deal, has asked that the exchange of instruments of ratification take place in a very remote place. In fact, the number of journalists invited to attend the ceremony is extremely limited.

The U.S. early-warning base, an electronic base, is situated in the Umm Khushayb village. It is run by CIA officials. The station was built in 1975 to insure implementation of the Sinai agreement, but in fact, it was used to spy not only against Egypt, but also against a number of other Arab countries. According to the separatist treaty with Israel, Umm Khushayb will be transferred to Egyptian hands in the future. However, the American spying station will be retained.

According to reports received from some journalists who visited Umm Khushayb not so long ago, the Americans have seriously established themselves there and will remain for a long time.

The ceremony to exchange instruments of ratification means that the treaty will come into force fully and legally. Actual implementation will begin today.

Israeli Defense Minister Weizmann is due in Cairo today for talks with his Egyptian counterpart Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali. They will not only discuss matters pertaining to the phased withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Sinai which should be fully completed within 3 years under the treaty and its appendices. Informed Western journalists believe that the Israeli and Egyptian defense ministers will also discuss the question of establishing cooperation between them in their specific field, namely, the military field. By the way, all these matters are provided for in the treaty.

These facts by themselves prove the extent of the comic meaning of the word peace in the context of the anti-Arab separatist treaty which was finally concluded between Egypt and Israel on U.S. orders.

TASS Commentator on Ratification

LD251832 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Today the instruments of ratification of the so-called "peace treaty" concluded by Israel and Egypt with the United States' active mediation were exchanged. Symbolically the exchange ceremony took place at an American military base--the Umm Khushayb electronic early-warning station on the Sinai peninsula. The only witnesses of the sealing of the Israeli-Egyptian alliance were American servicemen of the station and several small low-ranking officials from Cairo and Tel Aviv.

Thus, the ignominious separate Israeli-Egyptian treaty signed on March 26 this year entered into force despite strong protests by progressive public opinion around the world, and by the public in all Arab countries. This took place to the accompanyment of Israeli shells, bombs and missiles exploding in Palestine refugee camps on Lebanese soil.

As is known, this separate treaty fails to resolve the basic question on whether peace is to come to the Middle East--namely the Palestine question. As many figures in Arab countries have repeatedly stressed, a Middle East settlement must be comprehensive, with the participation of all the sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate and generally recognized representative of the Palestine Arab people. It must lean on the United Nations Organisation's decisions which envisage the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories, the return of those lands to the Arabs and ensuring the legitimate national rights of the Palestine Arab people, including the right to self-determination and creating an independent state of its own. The only possible forum for resolving these questions is the Geneva peace conference, of which the United States and the Soviet Union are co-chairman. The Egyptian-Israeli treaty contravenes the well-known U.N. resolutions on the Middle East and is a travesty of international law, first of all, of the right of the Palestine Arabs to live on their own land and have an independent state.

This deal has an anti-Arab orientation, since it is aimed against the Arab national-liberation movement, opens opportunities for expanding the Israeli aggression and for the establishment of American domination in the Middle East, which threatens the future of all Arabs. The setting up of the Washington-Tel Aviv-Cairo triple bloc has military-strategic aspects which go beyond the framework of the Middle East region. The Pentagon does not conceal its intention to establish military control over the Arabian Sea and also to pressure African states adjacent to this region in order to subjugate their internal and foreign policy to U.S. interests. Washington's plans give the Egyptian-Israeli military bloc the role of a policeman.

The separate deal, cemented by Washington's multi-billion military and economic aid, came up against resolute condemnation throughout the Arab world. Having taken the road of treachery, Egyptian President as-Sadat finds himself in complete isolation. In accordance with the recent decisions by the Baghdad conference of foreign and economics ministers of Arab countries, at present political and economic sanctions are being taken against the As-Sadat regime. A number of Arab countries have already recalled their ambassadors from Cairo and severed diplomatic relations with the As-Sadat regime. These include member-countries of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

The Arab countries are increasingly realizing the need for uniting efforts in the struggle against American-Israeli imperialism, against As-Sadat's treacherous policy. In this they see a guarantee of peace and security for all Arab peoples.

MOSCOW SCORES EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS ON TREATY

ID260850 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Muhammad Samih Anwar, Egyptian ambassador in London, made an astounding statement before the British Jewish community in which he said that Egypt, rather its leadership, concluded the separate treaty for one reason: to defend side by side with the Israeli Government the interests of the Palestinian Arab people and [word indistinct] Arab people's struggle for peace. The reply to this statement is impossible without first questioning it, since it seems impossible that the author of the statement is an Arab with an important diplomatic position.

He was ordered to prove that what is black is actually white. The fact is that there are abortive attempts by the participants in the separate collusion to depict the notorious administrative autonomy as though it was the sole means of solving the Palestine problem.

The U.S, Israeli and Egyptian leaderships will solve it without the participation of the Palestinians themselves and all the Arabs who rejected such a solution categorically, because it leads to the perpetuation of the occupation of Palestinian lands. This was stated once again by Israeli Prime Minister Begin, who made it very clear that the West Bank and Gaza will never be liberated and that Israel will build new settlements there and expand existing ones.

The United States played its move in the criminal game and appointed as head of the U.S. delegation to the forthcoming talks on Palestinian autonomy Strauss, the leader of the Zionist bloc in the United States. The director of the PLO Information Office in Washington Dr Husayni, commenting on this appointment said that this was a new proof of the lack of a just attitude toward the Palestinian people by the United States and of its ignoring the legitimate rights of this people. Dr Husayni said that undoubtedly the U.S. delegate Strauss, a pro-Israeli, would defend Israel. The PLO representative in Washington pointed out that the United States cannot count on the participation of even a single Palestinian in the (?proposed) talks on administrative autonomy.

TASS COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES STRAUSS MISSION

LD260756 Moscow TASS in English 0622 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--TASS commentator Natalia Zinovyeva writes:

U.S. President Carter named his special trade representative Robert S. Strauss as ambassador at large for negotiating with Israel and Egypt on the matter of Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

Though the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab countries reject this idea, a spokesman for the State Department Hodding Carter presented Strauss' mission as the "first realistic effort" in 30 years to deal with the Palestine issue.

Since this statement reflects the position of the administration and sets the tune for American propaganda in connection with the appointment of the "superambassador," as Strauss has been nicknamed at the State Department, he warrants a more detailed description. What hits the eye first of all is the fact that the U.S. has undertaken to promote the vicious Israeli idea of granting the Palestine people a sort of "autonomy" under continuing Israeli occupation. The idea, which Israel pictures almost as a concession, has nothing in common with a just solution of the Palestine question. All UN resolutions on the Middle East stress that its genuine solution is impossible without taking into consideration the Palestine people's legitimate rights, including its right to statehood.

We should also note another fact--the mission entrusted to Strauss is a new step on the road of separate Israeli-Egyptian negotiations under the U.S. aegis, condemned by the entire Arab world, and which resulted in the isolation of As-Sadat's regime. At the same time this means a further departure from a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem with the participation of all the sides concerned.

It is noteworthy that simultaneously with the announcement about Strauss' appointment, it has been learnt that the U.S. House of Representatives endorsed a move not to allow any exceptions from the U.S. ban on entry visas to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Does not this confirm the hypocritical nature of attempts to prove that the U.S. shows concern for the interests of the Palestinians?

It only remains to add that the U.S. is launching a campaign in favour of the Israeli project of "autonomy" in an atmosphere of freshly launched piratic raids by Israeli military on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, and amidst Tel Aviv's threats against the Palestinians.

DANGEROUS IMPLICATIONS OF LEBANON FOR ENTIRE MIDEAST

LD250858 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Yuriy Glukhov "Commentator's Column"--"Using a Pawn as a Cover"]

[Text] The small Arab country of Lebanon has again fallen victim to the Israeli aggressors. Israeli air and naval forces have launched strikes against its territory, destroying peaceful towns and villages and Palestinian refugee camps. Blood is again flowing on Lebanese soil.

All indications are that the current military provocations are the beginning of the latest conspiracy against Lebanon. The Israeli puppet Haddad, who recently proclaimed the creation of a so-called "independent Lebanon," is being used as a tool. His speech, prepared in Tel Aviv and broadcast by Israeli Army radio stations, was immediately given extensive publicity by the aggressors. Describing the Lebanese traitor as a "patriot," Israeli Defense Minister Weizman significantly stated: "As far as I understand it, Haddad wants Beirut to again become the capital of a "free and independent Lebanon."

It is absolutely clear that the Israeli move with the puppet pawn is an action having far-reaching aims. Tel Aviv made an attempt last year to capture the south of Lebanon, but under world public pressure and in answer to the U.N. Security Council demand, it was forced to withdraw its troops, as its encroachments on the territory of that country were extremely brazen and too obvious. A similar operation is now being prepared, but this time under a "Lebanese flag". Last year, the Israeli military reached the Litani River, but now they have set their sights at Beirut.

This is a threat to Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity. At hand is a plan for partitioning this Arab state and undermining the Palestine resistance movement, aggravating the whole Middle East situation.

It is evident that the actions of the Israeli military are a direct result of connivance on the part of the USA with the agressor. Presently unfolding is some kind of a second stage of 'peace Camp David style'. The separate deal with Cairo reached under U.S. tutelage gives a free hand to Tel Aviv for continuing its policy of aggression and annexation. Imperialism and Zionism are trying to direct a blow to the Palestine resistance movement, to the interests of the Arab peoples.

By supplying Tel Aviv with arms, by making common cause with it, the USA becomes, as a matter of fact, involved in its actions. The alarming situation emerging in Lebanon and around it is graphic evidence of all dangers of such a policy to the cause of peace and detente in the Middle East and all over the world.

MOSCOW HEBREW COMMENTS ON ISRAEL'S ATTACKS ON LEBANON

TA241658 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 23 Apr 79 TA

[Excerpt] It is doubtful whether public opinion in Israel can remain indifferent to the direction that has been aroused throughout the world by Israel's new series of armed attacks on neighboring Lebanon.

As is known, Israeli Navy vessels were dispatched, on Begin's orders, to Lebanon's territorial waters where they shelled the Palestinian refugee camp not far from Tripoli. At the same time, Israeli artillery poured fire on Lebanese territory in support of the Phalangists, the Christian rightist dissidents, who proclaimed what they term Free Lebanon.

In any case, it is now clear to one and all how many lies are hidden in Begin's claim that his cabinet does not view with favor Lebanese rightist forces' actions that are meant to divide the country.

Newspapers in various countries, analyzing the motivations and objectives of the recent Israeli attacks on Lebanon, express the view that Begin and his associates not only actually condoned the provocative step of the Lebanese rightist forces, but that they had even directly prepared that step. Correspondents maintain that Major Haddad, who crowned himself commander of the Christian rightist units, is in actual fact a member of the Israeli Army. By the way, his declaration about Free Lebanon was proclaimed on Israel's soil, and Begin couldn't have been innocently ignorant that such a press conference would be held or, for that matter, that an Israeli plane would then fly the aforementioned major back to his base in southern Lebanon.

The present prime minister of Israel may honestly believe that he will succeed, with Haddad's help, in setting up some kind of a buffer area between the Palestinian revolutionary movement and Israel. It is however also possible that Begin hopes he will in time be able to annex to Israel those territories that are at the moment under control of the Lebanese separatists. Such hopes will, in any case, prove to be highly adventurous; escalating the situation in a country bordering on Israel is unlikely to enhance Israel's security.

ISRAEL INTERESTED IN EXPANDING ARMS EXPORTS

TA241805 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 22 Apr 79 TA

[Excerpt] The Government of Israel is interested in expanding its arms exports. The U.S. biweekly BUSINESS WEEK writes that this year Israel will sell various countries weapons worth $600 million. The intention is to increase the export of arms by 44 percent every year.

Contracts have already been signed to supply Israeli-made weapons to Chile and to Taiwan. Begin's cabinet also pledged to supply arms to Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and to the racist regime in South Africa. The Israeli arms merchants keep hoping that their chief clients will remain in power, with the help of bayonets, and thus continue to be dependent on Israel's services.

Successful Israeli arms deals require, of course, U.S. blessings. U.S. arms producers will naturally not let their minor partners limit their scope. Things look different, however, if political considerations are involved. And such considerations give Israel the task of supplying arms to regimes which, if they received explicit military assistance, would harm the U.S. administration. It goes without saying that such regimes are among the most reactionary in the world.

The gamble on increasing the arms export has to do with Begin's plans to expand military production in Israel, as well as to increase the general militarization of the entire Israeli economy. Military production enjoys a dominant status today in important branches of Israel's industry, such as in the metals and electronic industry, for example. About 25 percent of the workers are employed in the military industry, but military industry circles demand continuous expansion of industrial production and those circles demands have been willingly met. After all, the military and political views of Israeli leaders are well known and not disguised. Neither is it a secret that numerous persons among them, as for example Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, have a personal interest in the military industry.

MOSCOW PERSIAN VIEWS BENEFITS OF GAS TRUNKLINE FROM IRAN

LD252248 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] We now draw the attention of our dear listeners to a commentary from Moscow Radio's economic commentator about Soviet-Iranian cooperation in the field of gas. Our commentator writes: From the point of view of natural gas deposits Iran occupies one of the top places in the world although very little use has so far been made of these deposits. The Soviet Union and Japan are purchasers of Iranian gas, albeit on a small scale.

Certain factors have prevented implementation of a vast program for the export of Iranian natural gas to the international market, among which one may include the atmosphere of a lack of mutual confidence between certain countries with different social systems. Thanks to its consistent peaceful, Leninist policy toward strengthening the foundations of mutual confidence between countries with different social systems, the Soviet Union has played and is playing a significant role. The Soviet Union is consistently backing peace and friendship among the nations, backing the extension of good-neighborly relations among them; and all and sundry and aware of the USSR's decisive role in reaching the agreements during the all-European conference in Helsinki.

The negotiations between Soviet organizations, Iran, the FRG, France, Austria and Czechoslovakia on the purchase and sale of Iranian gas and its transmission and delivery via the USSR and Czechoslovakia to countries in Western Europe constitute one of the significant examples of the increase in mutual confidence [as heard] and the implementation of agreements reached during the all-European conference.

The project for extending the delivery of Iranian gas to the Western European market, which promised the receipt of appreciable profits by Iran in free currency, was studied for a long time, various pipe-laying routes were put forward, and it became clear that in the present circumstances the best route for the transmission of Iranian gas to Europe would be via the USSR and Czechoslovakia. The positive experience of the work on the trans-Iranian gas trunkline, which has been transmitting gas from the oilfields in southern Iran to the USSR for over 8 years, was an important factor in making that choice.

The northern sector of the gas trunkline has been built by Soviet organizations and gas is now being delivered in order to settle and repay the credits granted by the USSR toward setting up industrial units and other installations which provide employment of over 100,000 Iranian workers, engineers and technicians. Negotiations relating to Iranian gas deliveries to Western Europe began in Tehran in May 1974. Initially, three parties participated in the negotiations--namely, Soviet organizations, the Iranian National Gas Company and Ruhrgaz of West Germany. Later the French firm Gaz de France and the Austrian firm OMC also joined in the negotiations.

The talks were both serious and constructive and took place in a friendly atmosphere; and the aim was that from 1981 onwards Iran could sell its gas to the West European consuming companies on the Soviet-Iranian border in return for free and exchangeable currency. This gas will be entirely consumed in the southern parts of the USSR, and the Soviet Union will deliver the same quantity of gas from its own gas fields to the FRG, and to Austria on its border with Czechoslovakia. With this arrangement the USSR is to undertake the task of the carrying and transmission of gas and, in return for its trouble, it would not charge Iran but rather the companies purchasing its gas. During the negotiations problems emerged, which among other things were connected with the distance from the Iranian border to the territory of the countries consuming Iranian gas in Western Europe, which exceeds 3,000 km. If we were to take into account the general international transit tariff, the USSR should have raised it so much as possibly to jeopardize these agreements. However, during the talks the USSR, in view of its desire for a multilateral transaction and agreement, sympathetically received the request by Iran and the purchasing companies and greatly reduced the tariff price for the transit of Iranian gas via Soviet territory; and this reduction, in turn, became a decisive factor in reaching agreement on and carrying out the transaction. On the whole, the implementation of this project and transaction will strengthen the foundations of confidence between countries with different social systems and will help improve the international political situation.

CORRESPONDENT VIEWS EXTENT, LIMITS OF U.S.-SAUDI FRICTION

LD251445 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 17 Signed to Press 19 Apr 79 pp 4-5 LD

[Article by TASS correspondent in Cairo K. Dudarev: "Washington's Policy Harms Saudi Arabia's Interests"]

[Text] Relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States, which have been steadily deteriorating in recent months, have begun to resemble a real "psychological war." Political commentators arrive at this conclusion on analyzing the present state of relations between the two countries. A shadow has been cast over American-Saudi relations by the Washington administration's current policy of establishing a peace in the Near East to benefit only the United States and Israel, and ignoring the Arab people's fundamental vital interests.

Reluctant to take into consideration the position of the Arabs, including Saudi Arabia, the United States has resorted to brazen and shameless pressure on Riyadh to make its influential partner in the Arab world yield to diktat. After the conclusion last September of the Camp David agreements, which the Saudi Government condemned, the United States began openly blackmailing Riyadh. It actively spread rumors about the intensification of a power struggle within the royal family, about "dangerous illnesses" of King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd, about Khalid's intention to abdicate, and others. Moreover, early in March the Washington POST suggested that "the American administration's confidence in the Saudi leadership is waning."

Washington allocates a significant role to oil in the "psychological war" against Saudi Arabia. The "sudden" emergence of statements by American officials about the "depletion" of Saudi oilfields and the Kingdom's "inability" to satisfy the West's growing needs for a very important strategic raw material is no accident. By belittling the significance of Saudi oil for the world economy Washington wishes to make the Riyadh leaders more "compliant." The oil octopuses Exxon and Standard Oil, U.S. Energy Secretary Schlesinger and even the CIA have joined in the "game." Widening the campaign of pressure and threats, Washington has not resisted the temptation to intimidate the Saudi princes with the notorious "Soviet threat," which has been expatriated upon by U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown, who made a trip to the Near East in February of this year. If the reason for the anti-Saudi campaign had remained unclear to anyone, it has been explained by Senator Frank Church, who accused Riyadh of "impeding the peace process in the Near East" and, in other words, preventing Washington from insuring its strategic interests in that part of the world.

However, the U.S. threats, blackmail and other attempts to undermine Saudi Arabia's political and economic weight have had no effect. In the political sphere Riyadh has moved toward further rapprochement with the Arab countries opposed to the establishment of a "pax Americana" in the Near East and participated in last November's Baghdad summit conference. Having condemned the separate treaty between Egypt and Israel, Saudi Arabia also displayed solidarity with the other Arab countries at the conference of foreign, economics and finance ministers of Arab countries held in Baghdad at the end of March. In accordance with the political and economic sanctions which the conference adopted against the As-Sadat regime, which signed the separate "peace treaty" with Israel under U.S. pressure, it has recalled its ambassador from Cairo, announced the ending of economic aid to it and declined to use the Suez Canal and the "Sumed" oil pipeline from Suez to the Mediterranean Coast. The Saudi authorities have announced their intention to fulfill in full all the decisions of the Baghdad conference.

Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, has replied to intimidation citing the "Soviet danger" in an interview granted to the Lebanese journal AL-HAWADITH. He emphasized that his country considers Zionism in the shape of Israel to be the chief threat in the Middle East region. And as regards oil, the American-Saudi Aramco company, which has been extracting oil from the Arabian Peninsula for decades has totally refuted the gloomy forecasts of American propaganda. The point is that on their own initiative the Saudi leaders have begun pursuing a new oil policy representing a special type of "oil embargo." As distinct from the "open" embargo employed by the Arab oil-producing countries in 1973 and used by the West to spread anti-Arab feeling in the world, Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, points out, the new one involves maintaining the present level of oil extraction "despite the United States' steadily growing oil needs and its requests for increased exports." The effectiveness of this policy, the minister explains, is equivalent to an open embargo on deliveries but is more in keeping with the country's national interests. It is clear that, given the constant rise in oil prices, it is far more profitable to keep the oil underground than to keep in American banks the steadily depreciating petrodollars made from the sale of oil. Within the framework of this new policy Riyadh is increasingly insistently raising the question of increasing oil production in direct dependence on the extent to which the United States takes into consideration the interests of the overwhelming majority of Arab peoples demanding Israel's full withdrawal from all the lands occupied by it in 1967, including East Jerusalem--the site of Islamic holy places--and the realization of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

In addition to the serious disagreements between Washington and Riyadh, which the Beirut-published weekly MIDDLE EAST REPORTER has described as "strategic," new elements have emerged in relations between the two countries following the Iranian events--distrust and suspicion. The American administration's powerlessness to prevent the overthrow of the shah of Iran and its conclusion--which became public knowledge--that the shah's "survival does not matter" [shakhu "vse ravno ne zhit"] made a very bad impression on the royal family. Saudi Arabia's leaders are making increasingly insistent calls to abandon the one-sided orientation toward the United States and proceed to more balanced international ties through strengthening and broadening relations with different countries in the world.

Of course, it is possible to speak only very relatively of a "war" between Saudi Arabia and the United States, even a "psychological" one. The two countries are still closely linked by political, economic and "oil" bonds. The Arabian kingdom remains one of the most traditional or "moderate" Arab regimes. The "strategic disagreements" which have arisen between Washington and Riyadh on questions of a Near East settlement attest all the more graphically to the incompatibility of the peace being imposed by Washington and the aims of its policy in that region with the true interests and aspirations of the Arab peoples.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

REPORTAGE ON RHODESIAN ELECTION RESULTS CONTINUES

Observer on Election 'Farce'

LD252224 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The results of the general election in Rhodesia have been made public. The prime minister of the new government is Abel Muzorewa, a close political partner of the racist leader, Smith. Here is what our observer wrties on the subject:

So the election farce is over. According to plan, Bishop Abel Muzorewa is now the prime minister. But has anything changed in the destiny of the Zimbabwe people? Hardly, because the new constitution provides for the dominance of the white population in all spheres of life as before. The white Rhodesians will control every government step, both inside the country and internationally. Under pressure from the intensified liberation struggle, the racists, who were forced to make at least some purely superficial changes, have preferred to formally share power with their African puppets, while really preserving full control over the country. Now the country is wondering what would be the first political steps of the first black [word indistinct] in Rhodesia. It is noteworthy that the question of improving the life of Rhodesia's native population is not even raised. Muzorewa has yet to pay the racists for their gifts. Meanwhile, the racists now have one goal, to gain international recognition of the new Rhodesian Government and the lifting of economic sanctions. This is where Muzorewa is to play the leading part. The puppet nature of the new Rhodesian Government confirms the correctness of the stand taken by the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which has declared its resolve to continue armed struggle until the power in the country is transferred to the true representatives of African majority.

Comments by UK Observer

LD252014 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] London, April 25, TASS--Lord Chitnis exposed today the sham "general elections" staged by the racists in Rhodesia. He was part of the British Parliament's observer group called upon to ascertain the allegedly "unbiased nature" of this political show. Back in London, Lord Chitnis said that they were not free and fair elections but a massive confidence trick, adding that there was "considerable physical violence" and "quite undue and unreasonable pressure to make people go to vote." According to Lord Chitnis, population of "protected villages"--these veritable concentration camps behind barbed wire and guarded by Rhodesian military were the subject of special brainwashing. The Smith soldiers stopped buses, making passengers get out and vote under duress. Those refusing to comply were immediately arrested. The testimony of the British observer gives the lie to the racist version of the alleged enthusiasm of the electorate and support for the "internal settlement" in the Rhodesia.

More Votes Than Voters

LD242106 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Arkadiy Butlitskiy commentary]

[Text] The so-called parliamentary elections in Rhodesia have shown that in two northern regions the number of votes was larger than the number of voters.

A BBC report said in Mashonaland, that includes Salisbury, the elections involved 101 percent of the voters. Radio Moscow observer Arkadiy Butlitskiy comments. He writes: So Ian Smith can be congratulated. It was a phenomenal achievement (?so to say). Even most experienced political jugglers can't boast of such tricks. It's common knowledge that the elections in question were held under martial law. Africans were offered two versions of voting--either under the supervision of the security forces and army patrols, or under the wardship of the local fascists, duly armed of course. The authorities mobilized more than 70,000 reservists to add to the existing punitive detachments.

But despite this terror and intimidation thousands of Africans refused to take part in this paramilitary show which included Smith's circus trick resulting in the involvement of 101 percent of voters. The Salisbury falsifiers have exposed themselves before the whole civilized world. It isn't funny, however, since the operation had a very sinister goal in view--to legitimize the fascist-style racist dictatorship with a fig leaf of 101 per cent democracy and to attain the abolition of the UN sanctions.

As to the racists' sponsors, instead of counting the falsified votes they had better register the number of women, children and old people killed and injured by Smith's henchmen and the number of villages burned in the process in Rhodesia and in the neighboring countries, Arkadiy Butlitskiy writes in conclusion.

West's Plan To Lift Sanctions

LD260022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Mikhail Zenovich commentary]

[Text] In Rhodesia, the results of the recent so-called elections which were held in an atmosphere of crude ballot-rigging and violence have been announced. At the microphone is international affairs journalist Mikhail Zenovich:

The results announced in Salisbury of the so-called general elections have, as was to be expected, secured the majority of seats allocated for Africans in the future Parliament for the United African National Council. The leader of this grouping, Abel Muzorewa, [words indistinct] prime minister of the mixed government, where he will provide his racist masters with an African facade. It is known that Muzorewa had long been cooperating with South African intelligence and on their instructions has taken upon himself the role of initiator in implementing the internal settlement plans for Rhodesia and Namibia worked out by the rulers of Salisbury and Pretoria. (?And) he has justified the trust of the racists, addressing appeals to the Western countries to recognize the legality of the regime being created and to renounce the UN sanctions which ban economic and military cooperation with Rhodesia. These appeals are met in Washington and London with the broadest of support. According to official statements, the results of the elections are being studied there.

At the same time, imperialist propaganda and ruling circles are creating around the election masquerade a particular public atmosphere for international recognition of Rhodesia. By all accounts, they were only awaiting the completion of these elections to promote more actively the process of the internal settlement. The British Tories, through their representative Pym who holds the shadow foreign affairs portfolio, have declared their readiness, if they come to power, to recognize the new regime. Rightwing circles in the United States have not even waited for the end of the election farce to launch a broad campaign for the lifting of sanctions.

Congressman Solarz, who heads the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa, had meetings on the eve of the elections with the leaders of the Salisbury alliance of racists and puppets and asserts that it will be difficult to stop the campaign in Congress for lifting the sanctions.

Imperialist propaganda goes even further, insisting at present that the Western countries should either think up their own initiatives or else set cooperation with Pretoria on such a basis that the main [word indistinct] for solution of the problems of Rhodesia and Namibia might lie in its hands. In other words, it is a question of the racists' way to recognition, after Rhodesia, of an artificial independence for Namibia. The South African racists are now pushing their own plan for an internal settlement on the Rhodesian model.

And so, against the will of the people of Zimbabwe and its recognized representatives, the Patriotic Front, the Western powers are watching a dirty deal with various enemies of African freedom. Such a course is fraught with further aggravation of tension in southern Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA SABOTAGING U.N. PLAN FOR NAMIBIA

LD220440 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 21 Apr 79 LD

[Vladimir Petrov commentary]

[Text] Western news agencies report the United Nations Council for Namibia has instructed its chairman, Paul Lusaka of Zambia, to start consultations aimed at continuing the discussion of the Namibian problem by the United Nations General Assembly late next month. Vladimir Petrov comments.

The United Nations Security Council has worked out a plan for a peaceful solution of the Namibian problem aimed at transferring the power to the Namibian people. The plan includes the holding of elections in Namibia supervised by the United Nations civilian and military staff. The election should involve all political parties of the country, including its major patriotic force, the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO. The South African racists, however, are sabotaging the United Nations plan, though they agreed to it officially. They realize only too well that an election supervised by the United Nations isn't likely to end up favorably for them and they will have to get out of the country they illegally occupied. That is why they have made a number of maneuvers of late to frustrate the United Nations plan.

Now they are vigorously preparing to carry out a so-called internal settlement of their own, in other words, the racists intend to create an illegal transitional government involving a number of bribed African leaders under full control of white settlers. Their main instrument is the so-called Windhoek Constituent Assembly, the major role in which belongs to white settlers. The Pretoria rulers say hypocritically they are ready to implement the United Nations plan provided it's approved by the Windhoek Constituent Assembly. Meanwhile the ringleaders of this puppet body demand a provisional government with wide powers be established in Namibia which virtually means complete rejection of the United Nations plan for Namibia.

Exposing the racists' hypocrisy, the news agencies say there is no doubt this proposal will be approved by the South African Government in the near future and the puppets will be given freedom of action Rhodesian-style. All this fuss is taking place with the tacit approval of the Western powers, which evidently suits them. However, the future of the Namibian people should not be decided by the racists or the Western powers. The United Nations is responsible for that territory.

NUJOMA SCORES 'RACIST-IMPERIALIST COLLUSION' IN NAMIBIA

LD201324 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 20 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Luanda, April 20, TASS--The full liberation of Namibia from racist and imperialist oppression is the aim of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), a TASS correspondent was told by the SWAPO president Sam Nujoma. The Pretoria racists and their allies in the West are resorting lately to various machinations to retain the possibility to plunder the country's natural resources and ruthlessly exploit its people, he went on. For this purspose pseudo-elections to the "Constituent Assembly" were arranged last December and now a new trick is being staged with the establishment of a "Namibian Government." In this farce the main role is again being given to puppet reactionary groupings that have been set up by the South Africa authorities and are being lavishly financed by the West.

The racist-imperialist collusion, the SWAPO president stressed, is not only of a political but also of a military nature. The NATO countries are providing the occupationists with aircraft, helicopters, tanks and other military hardware, and also with mercenaries. The Namibian people knows only too well the worth of the political maneuvers by Pretoria and its overseas partners. So its reply to the intrigues by the enemies of genuine independence is to intensify armed liberation struggle.

On behalf of the Namibian people and its vanguard--SWAPO, Sam Nujoma said, I would like to express gratitude and appreciation to the Soviet Union, to the other countries of the socialist community, to all progressive forces of the world for their support of our struggle against the hated regime of occupation and its imperialist patrons.

KRAZNAYA ZVEZDA DISCUSSES GROWTH OF SOCIALISM IN AFRICA

LD171130 Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 17 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--The alliance of the African liberation movement with world socialism is an earnest of further development and strengthening of the revolutionary process in the African Continent despite fierce opposition of imperialism and local reaction, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes today.

In the article about the struggle and successes of peoples of African countries that embarked upon the road of non-capitalist development, the newspaper stresses that every one of these countries has its own specific features, traditions and history. They have different levels of development and different potentialities for economic growth. But at the same time, there exists a whole range of actors that unite them. First of all, it is their consistent anti-imperialist course. In the foreign policy sphere, countries of socialist orientation are the most active fighters for ridding the confident [as received] speedily of the last seats of racism and colonialism, for overcoming the consequences of colonial oppression, for complete liquidation of different forms of dependence which imperialism tries to preserve in new conditions.

In the sphere of the home policy, the newspaper writes, the states that chose socialist orientation conduct the course at democratisation of the entire public life, in defence of the interests of the working people who constitute the vast majority of the population. These states take measures to restrict the predatory activity of Western companies, are developing the advanced forms of labour organization that are aimed at meeting national requirements and not at enrichment of a handful of exploiters.

The very first steps along the chosen road show its advantages in the solution of difficult tasks facing newly-independent African countries. The choosing of socialist orientation as the basis of national development is connected with the emergence of revolutionary-democratic parties in a number of African states. Many of these parties are striving to guide themselves by the ideas of scientific socialism in their practical activity. The newspaper points out that the resolve to build a new life along the lines that are ultimately leading to socialism was by now proclaimed by Algeria, Angola, Benin, Guinea, Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

PRC BUILDING ECONOMIC TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA

LD252340 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] According to the Johannesburg newspaper STAR, South Africa has become China's second largest market on the continent. Our observer Yuriy Mikhaylov makes this comment.

Beijing is building up economic ties with Pretoria, contrary to the demands of the world progressive-minded public. Aware of its falling prestige among African countries, it does not dare to trade with Pretoria openly. All its goods come to the Republic of South Africa via Hong Kong as re-exports. What is also noteworthy, China is reported to have offered oil to the Republic of South Africa after Iran broke off diplomatic and economic relations with that racist regime and put an embargo on oil supplies to it. Even so, China will buy oil elsewhere and resell it to the Republic of South Africa. Every now and then the press reports Beijing's growing trade relations with the racist regime in Rhodesia as well, despite the United Nations sanctions and the attitude of the Organization of African Unity. All this indicates that promoting relations with the racist regimes is actually planned in Chinese policy in Africa. Its aim is to help Beijing attain its great power objectives on the global scale. While professing solidarity with the freedom fighters in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia, the Chinese leaders have allied themselves with imperialist groups supporting the racist regimes. Beijing and Pretoria found themselves in one camp when Pretoria attacked Angola, and it approves NATO interference in Zaire. It is also known that Western and Chinese representatives held consultations on an internal settlement for Rhodesia along neocolonialist lines. As far as China's relations with the liberation movement, its policy has from the start been that of supporting splinter organizations and giving practically no aid to progressive revolutionary ones.

SOVIET DESTROYER COMPLETES VISIT TO GUINEA-BISSAU

LD240855 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Apr 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Friendship Visit Over"]

[Text] Bissau, 19 April--The destroyer Zorkiy has concluded its official friendly visit to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. The ship's command was received by L. Cabral, deputy general secretary of the African Independence Party of Guinea and Cape Verde and president of the republic's Council of State, and by J. Vieira, principal commissioner of the Council of State Commissioners. The Zorkiy's visit to our country, J. Vieira declared during a visit to the ship, will serve to further strengthen friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Guinea-Bissau.

FINAL DAY'S BUSINESS OF SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

LD251057 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Unattributed "Information Report on USSR Supreme Soviet Sittings"]

[Text] The first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation continued its work 19 April 1979 in the Kremlin.

The second joint sitting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities was held at 1100 hours in the Great Kremlin Palace. V.P. Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, chaired the session.

V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, delivered the report on the draft USSR Supreme Soviet regulations and on changes and additions to the statute of USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities standing commissions.

The following deputies spoke in the debate on this question on the agenda: A.F. Vatchenko, Z.I. Guseynova, A.B. Chakovskiy and N.T. Koslov.

The USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the USSR Supreme Soviet regulations and also the law on changes and additions to the statute on the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities standing commissions.

M.P. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, delivered the report on the ratification of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees.

The USSR Supreme Soviet ratified the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees and adopted appropriate laws. Changes and additions were also made to the law on deputies' status and the law on the procedure for recalling a USSR Supreme Soviet deputy.

A U.S. House of Representatives delegation headed by J. Brademas attended the session.

The third joint sitting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities was held at 1700 hours in the Great Kremlin Palace. A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, chaired the sitting.

The Supreme Soviet moved on to form the USSR Council of Ministers.

The floor was given to Deputy A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Kosygin submitted for consideration and approval by the USSR Supreme Soviet the composition of the USSR Council of Ministers approved by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet party group.

The USSR Supreme Soviet unanimously approved the composition of the USSR Council of Ministers. After that A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke on behalf of the newly formed government.

The USSR Supreme Soviet moved on to the next questions on the session's agenda.

Deputies I.V. Kapitonov, V.V. Kuznetsov and A.F. Vatchenko put forward proposals approved by the USSR Supreme Soviet party group and the chambers' Councils of Elders regarding the composition of the USSR People's Control Committee and the USSR Supreme Court and the appointment of the USSR prosecutor general.

Having considered these proposals, the USSR Supreme Soviet formed the USSR People's Control Committee under the chairmanship of Comrade A.M. Shkolnikov, elected the USSR Supreme Court headed by Comrade Chairman L.N. Smirnov and appointed Comrade R.A. Rudenko USSR Prosecutor general.

With this the 1st session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation completed its work.

PARLIAMENTARY GROUP HOLDS MEETING, ELECTS OFFICIALS

LD251155 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Text] TASS--The general meeting of the USSR Parliamentary Group was held 19 April after the end of the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation.

The meeting discussed and approved the report of the USSR Parliamentary Group committee on work in the period 26 July 1974-18 April 1979.

The Parliamentary Group committee comprising 61 deputies was elected. Deputy A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, was elected chairman of the group. The following deputies were elected deputy chairmen of the group: V.P. Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; V.V. Zagladin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the NOVOSTI press agency board; and T.N. Khrennikov, first secretary of the USSR Composers Union Board. Deputy V.L. Kudryavtsev, IZVESTIYA political observer, was elected secretary of the Parliamentary Group.

ALIYEV ADDRESSES BAKU MEETING ON AZERBAIJAN ANNIVERSARY

LD250941 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 10 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "To Prepare in Exemplary Fashion for the 60th Anniversary of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Azerbaijan CP Republic Jubilee Committee Session"]

[Text] The first session of the republic jubilee commission to prepare for the 60th anniversary of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Azerbaijan CP was held 9 April at the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee.

Reports were delivered by Yu.N. Pugachev, second secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Committee, and A.G. Kerimov, first secretary of Baku Gorkom.

G.A. Aliyevm, chairman of the republic jubilee commission, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, spoke at the session.

The 60th anniversary of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Azerbaijan CP, he said, is an event of tremendous sociopolitical importance and a great red-letter day for not only the republic's working people but also all the peoples of our multinational motherland. During the years of Soviet power Azerbaijan has traveled a great, historic path and has achieved outstanding successes in socioeconomic and cultural development. All these successes and the entire happy life of the Azerbaijan people are connected with the wise leadership of the Communist Party and with the consistent and unswerving implementation of Lenin's national policy. They are the result of the fraternal aid of the USSR peoples, headed by the Great Russian people, and of their indissoluble friendship and socialist internationalism, which is the basis of our Soviet society's life and activity.

Dwelling on the tasks that party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic organs will have to solve during the preparation for the jubilee, Comrade Aliyev noted particularly that the main aim of this period must be to improve party organizational and ideological activity in every possible way and to intensify the struggle to fulfill the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the plans and socialist pledges of the fourth year and the whole 5-year plan. Azerbaijan's working people are successfully fulfilling the high pledges adopted during Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit to Baku. They are seeking to complete the 5-year plan in terms of the total volume of industrial production in 4 years and 4 months.

Effective use must be made of the preparation period, Comrade Aliyev continued, for comprehensive propaganda by all the mass agitation media of the tremendous successes achieved by Azerbaijan's working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia during the years of Soviet power and of the republic party organization's wonderful revolutionary, combat, labor and international traditions. It is necessary to extensively show the achievements of the republic's working people during the 9th and 10th 5-year plans--achievements which have been possible thanks to the constant aid and attention given to Azerbaijan's development by the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo, the Soviet Government and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev personally.

Particular importance is attached to the measures devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Azerbaijan SSR and the Azerbaijan CP because they will be implemented during the preparations for the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and the 26th CPSU Congress. This is a great responsibility, and it expands the sphere of party, state and social organizations' activity.

In conclusion G.A. Aliyev characterized the specific tasks of the jubilee commission and expressed his confidence that the preparation and holding of the jubilee celebrations will help further improve the activity of the Azerbaijan party organization and every labor collective in the republic.

The session discussed and approved measures to prepare for the celebrations of the significant jubilee and approved working groups.

The session was attended by A.I. Ibragimov, G.Kh. Ibragimov, V.S. Krasilnikov, G.N. Seidov, S.B. Tatliyev and K.A. Khalilov, members of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee Bureau, and I.N. Askerov, Z.I. Guseynova and G.Sh. Efendiyev, candidate members of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee Bureau.

WESTERN VIEW OF SOVIET NATIONALITIES POLICY DENOUNCED

LD191257 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 25 Mar 79 pp 2-3 LD

[Article by Z. Mironova, candidate of historical sciences: "Self-Styled Defenders of National Culture" under the rubric: "Talks with Readers"]

[Text] In the form in which we inherited it from the past, the nationalities question in our country has been completely and definitively solved. In the Soviet Union a new type of national relations based on fraternal cooperation and mutual aid in every sphere of political, economic and cultural life has established itself and is successfully developing. The quality of nations and nationalities is enshrined in law in our country's Constitution.

Bourgeois ideologists are trying to distort the essence of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy and to discredit the Soviet Union's experience in the eyes of the other peoples of the world. Under modern conditions anticommunism has a special stake in nationalism and is trying to disunite the peoples of the USSR, the world socialist system and the international communist and workers movement, and to poison the working masses' consciousness. Bourgeois ideologists unanimously harp on "the failure to solve" the nationalities question in the USSR, the alleged "inequality" of nations in our country, and the intensifying "national antagonisms in the USSR."

In their attacks on the CPSU's nationalities policy bourgeois ideologists assign a special place to the Soviet nations and nationalities' spiritual life. This is no accident. It is in the sphere of literature and art and in the features of national character and life that the specific character of the nation is most clearly revealed. Anticommunists are trying to exploit national features of life, language and traditions. They wrongly view them as independent categories, isolated from the socioeconomic conditions of society's development. All manner of Sovietological speculations about problems in the development of national cultures in the USSR are founded on the idealistic bourgeois idea of a single supraclass national culture with which every nation is supposedly endowed from time immemorial. This theory is used to pit the national cultures of the peoples of the USSR against one another and to create the false impression that there can be no objective basis for friendship and mutual understanding among Soviet nationalities.

Emphasis is often laid on the Soviet Baltic republics in this regard. The ideologists of anticommunism and the reactionary emigration deliberately ignore the Baltic peoples' historical ties with the other fraternal peoples of the USSR. They attribute "a Western orientation" to the population of the Soviet Baltic republics, grouping them separately as "the Soviet West" and "mobilized Europeans." The work "Cultural Processes in the Baltic Region Under the Soviet System" by one (S. Dann) advances the idea that in the years of Soviet power in the Soviet Baltic republics, there have been no improvements of any substance in the cultural sphere and that all criteria and values (mostly Western-style) have remained unaltered.

At the beginning of the 1970's the University of Michigan's Center for Russian and East European Studies organized a conference on "The Influence of Eastern Europe and the Western Regions of the USSR on the USSR." From the conference materials a book was published, in which an article by V. Stanley Vardys--an "expert" on the Baltic republics well-known in the West--entitled "The Role of the Baltic Republics in Soviet Society" called these republics "Westernizers"--champions of Western ideas and traditions. [paragraph continues]

The Soviet Baltic republics' enormous cultural achievements in the years of Soviet power are presented by V. Stanley Vardys as the preservation of purely national elements which were already in existence before Soviet power. What is more, these elements are depicted as being alien in spirit to the other peoples of the USSR.

Bourgeois ideologists do not want to admit the obvious truth that socialist transformations have laid the foundation of a new culture for all the Soviet peoples, socialist in content and evident in a variety of national forms. These qualitatively new socialist features of Soviet culture are chiefly expressed in observing Leninist principles of party-mindedness, popular spirit and the socialist realism method. The main task facing Soviet multinational culture is, after all, to mold the new person and educate the working people in the spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism.

As for our own republic, in the years of Soviet power Latvian masters of the arts have produced a number of outstanding works reflecting the important stages on the historical path of the Soviet people and of the republic's working people. They include the works of the writers V. Latsis, A. Upit, Ya. Sudrabkaln, O. Vatsiyetis and I. Ziyedonis; the artists A. Terpilovskiy, E. Iltner and O. Skulm; and the composers Ya. Ivanov, V. Kaminskiy and I. Kalnyn. The works of many Latvian masters of the arts have won Lenin and USSR state prizes.

The party gives its full support to developing national traditions of a truly folk nature, such as mass song festivals and festivals of folk choirs and dance collectives. Suffice it to recall that around 20,000 performers took part in Soviet Latvia's festival of song to mark the 60th anniversary of October.

Western ideologists falsely accuse the Soviet nationalities policy of "Russification" aimed at destroying the peoples' national culture and originality. In this regard Sovietologists usually try to exploit the objective processes of the internationalization of social life under socialism: the migration of the population, the increase in the number of marriages between members of different nationalities, and the increase in the number of Russian-speaking non-Russians. Such arguments are used, for example, by V. Stanley Vardys in the article "The Problem of Nationality, Modernization and Baltic Nationalism" carried in the anticommunist journal PROBLEMS OF COMMUNISM. He talks of the "erosion" of national languages in the Soviet Baltic republics and of a decrease in the number of native-language publications.

The bourgeois Sovietologist A. Avtorkhanov, who published the tendentious anti-Soviet lampoon "The Communist Party Apparatus" in the West, discerns the policy of Soviet an nationalities' "linguistic Russification" in the existence of mixed schools with instruction both in one's native language and in Russian, citing Latvia as an example. An article on the Soviet Constitution by (A. Shtromas), another Sovietologist, cites Article 36 of the USSR Constitution, concerning the opportunity to use one's mother tongue and the languages of the other peoples of the USSR, as "proof" of the notorious "Russification." (Shtromas) arbitrarily interprets this clause as though undisputed priority were being given to Russian.

The real facts eloquently disprove the bourgeois falsifiers' spurious fabrications. Why, it is in the years of Soviet power that the peoples of the USSR have been given every opportunity for the all-round development of their languages, national identities and cultures. There are now 76 national literatures in the USSR; theatrical productions are produced in 47 languages; books, newspapers and magazines are published in 89 languages; and radio and television broadcasts go out in more than 60 languages of the peoples of the USSR.

Latvia too has experienced a genuine flourishing of science, culture and her national language. How can one talk of the national language being "eroded" when in a census almost 100 percent of native-born Soviet Latvians gave Latvian as their mother tongue? Higher education in Latvian is available in around 100 specialities. Latvian nationals make up some 65-66 percent of the creative intelligentsia. The output of literature in Latvian is constantly expanding.

At the same time, it is clear that knowledge of Russian is of great importance in our lives. As a means of inter-nation intercourse, it promotes the assimilation of all the riches and achievements of Soviet and world culture and to enrich Latvian national culture and insure that it spreads and is recognized all over the world.

In order to preserve their scientific authority, Sovietologists and many modern bourgeois ideologists are forced to recognize the considerable achievements in eradicating the real inequality of nationalities in the USSR, including that in the cultural sphere. The selfsame V. Stanley Vardys gives due credit to the achievements of science and culture in the Soviet Baltic republics. However, bourgeois Sovietology's class aim is not to seek the truth but to discredit Soviet reality. Thus a partial recognition of individual successes by the Soviet system is not a repudiation of the falsification of national relations in the USSR.

A number of bourgeois writers are trying to force through the false and manifestly unscientific view that it is only thanks to the Soviet nation's great sense of national consciousness and...against the wishes of the Soviet leadership that the national langugages and cultures are developing. The absurdity and unscientific nature of this view is obvious. It is, after all, the Soviet state which creates the material conditions necessary for the development of literature and art, gives comprehensive support to the work of creative unions and cultural and educational establishments, and invests enormous resources in the development of all types of education, which is free in our country.

Most of these writers make use of another favorite Sovietological device--that of turning socialism's achievements against socialism. They try to present the policy of the CPSU, which is furthering the nations' all-round flourishing, as a factor inevitably leading to negative repercussions. They maintain that the rise in the level of education among non-Russian nationals and the increase in the number of national intelligentsia cadres are giving rise to nationalistic feelings and separatist trends among the non-Russian peoples. This is precisely how V. Stanley Vardys reasons when commenting on the increase in the educational and cultural level of the population of the Soviet Baltic republics: "When political bourgeois nationalism was eradicated, it was replaced by cultural nationalism."

Thus modern bourgeois writings are still characterized by the mechanical opposition of two trends in the development of national relations in the USSR--on the one hand, nations' flourishing, and on the other, their rapprochement. These writers are trying to interpret each of these trends from a biased viewpoint. The nations' flourishing, the development of national cultures and languages, and national consciousness are all identified with nationalism. The trend toward the rapprochement of nations, the interpenetration and mutual enrichment of cultures, and the exchange of cultural values are depicted as national nihilism and Russification.

Objective reality and life itself disprove the falsifiers' multifarious fabrications. In our country "all nations and nationalities enjoy real equality in every sphere of social life. Culture--national in form and socialist in content--has flourished, and a genuine society of working people has established itself," the CPSU resolution on the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution emphasizes.

DISILLUSIONMENT OF BELORUSSIAN JEWISH EMIGRES STRESSED

LD240927 [Editorial Report LD] Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 15 April 1979 publishes on page 3 under the heading "Philanthropy Zionist-Style" a 1,800-word article by V. Gulevich describing the distress experienced by Belorussian Jewish families after emigrating to Israel. It condemns the unsolicited "Zionist propaganda" sent to Jews in Belorussia urging them to leave for Israel, and quotes from letters sent by emigres to their relatives in Belorussia complaining of the high cost of living in Israel and their inability to find suitable employment there.

CRIME STILL IN PROGRESS ON ARMENIAN HOLOCAUST ANNIVERSARY

LD252350 Yerevan in Armenian to Europe 0800 GMT 22 Apr 79 LD

[Statement by Shahe Dadouryan, deputy director of Armenian SSR State Committee for Radio and Television, on 64th anniversary of "April holocaust"--recorded]

[Excerpts] The renowned humanitarian Fridtjof Nansen said in his book "Armenia and the Middle East": In June 1915 began horrors the likes of which are not known to us. From towns and villages all over Cilicia, Anatolia and Mesopotamia, Armenian Christians were put on the road for a rendezvous with death. The deportation process was carried out according to plan, purging one region after another, whether the population concerned lived close to the theater of war or hundreds of kilometers away. Clearly, all Armenians were earmarked for extermination.

Thus did the famous Norwegian lucidly and starkly state the horrifying reality. Indignant voices were also raised on behalf of the martyred Armenian people by (?Karl Lichmerz) of the German Reichstag, Maksim Gorkiy and Valeriy Bruzov in Russia; Anatole France, Henry Barbusse and Marcel Cache in France; and famous historian Toynbee and others in Britain to condemn the authors of the genocide attempt.

The voice of protest and condemnation, growing louder with every passing day, is heard today. The crime is still in progress. The organizers of the holocausts are still at work. They operate at various levels: Here they block the production or showing of this or that film; somewhere else, they try to confuse by a distortion of facts or to use dark means to implement the emigration of Armenians from Middle East countries to far away Western countries--a move that favors the aim of its organizers, the extinguishing of Armenian nationhood. They also operate at the international level. With the assistance of the mercenary bourgeois diplomacy, they kept putting off the mention of the Armenian holocaust of 1915 as the first genocide of the 20th century for years at the UN Human Rights Commission. It is only recently that they suffered defeat in this commission. It was decided by a crushing majority in the report of the commission on genocide to reestablish Article 30 on the Armenian holocaust, which was taken out last year at the insistence of the Turkish Government. Thus the Armenian holocaust has come to be established as the first genocide of the 20th century.

Such condemnation is of great importance for all of mankind. It is a warning for vigilance for all time to come, and a caution to forces inclined to perpetrate genocide. Let us not forget that in instructing his commander to ruthlessly slaughter the Polish people, Hitler said at Obersalzburg on 22 August: "And who recalls the extermination of the Armenians now?" And he pitilessly, cruelly exterminated Jews and Poles--an act for which Germany accepted responsibility and provided reparations.

The perpetrators of the great holocaust dreamed of a world without Armenians, a map without Armenia. However, despite their best efforts, and thanks to the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the help of the Russian people, the Soviet Armenian Republic was created in November 1920, bringing into existence the new Armenian state. The Armenian people have gone from one achievement to another in the past six decades or so, secure and self-confident in the united family of fraternal peoples.

On 24 April every year, people from Yerevan as well as visitors from other towns and villages, several hundred thousand people in all, proceed on foot from early morning until late at night to Dzidzherrnagapert. They carry wreaths to the soaring monument there, honoring the memory of the 1.5 million Armenian martyrs, the victims of the holocaust, as well as the rebirth of the Armenian people. They come on foot, several hundred thousand strong, men and women, old or young, to express their respect and loyalty to the memory of the 1.5 million victims and to the will of the Armenian people to survive.

On 24 April every year there is a moment when, at a given signal on television and radio, 5 minutes of silence are observed in the towns and villages and in the mountains and valleys of Armenia--a communion with the martyrs.

Dear brothers and sisters in far-off lands: Keep the same respectful silence yourselves; imbue yourselves with the spirit and aspiration of our millions of martyrs; and imbue the new generations of Armenians with the same spirit and aspiration to achieve the dream of our ancestors who laid down their lives, but have survived in spirit.

NEW BOOK ON SOCIALIST HUMANISM, HUMAN RIGHTS HAILED

LD251525 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Doctor of Juridical Sciences G. Shakhnazarov book review under the rubric "New Books": "Socialist Humanism and Human Rights"]

[Text] It is known that the human problem in the broad sense, and the rights of the individual in particular, now occupies a central place in the ideological struggle in the world arena. There is no need to speak of the great significance which is attached to the positive elaboration of these questions for Marxist-Leninist theory and political enlightenment. It is to be welcomed that a number of books and pamphlets by Soviet authors on this topic have been published recently. Among them attention is drawn to the new work by V.M. Chkhikvadze, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences (Footnote) (V.M. Chkhikvadze, "Socialist Humanism and Human Rights" [Sotsialisticheskiy Gumanizm i Prava Cheloveka], Moscow, Mysl Publishing House, 1978.)

The reader will find here above all a systematic exposition of the Marxist-Leninist concept of the rights and freedoms of the person and citizen. After October 1917, for the first time in world history, the creation of conditions for the all-round development of the individual became the state's goal. This goal was consistently implemented in the course of building a new society when, on the one hand the necessary material and spiritual preconditions were created for the development of man, and on the other, people themselves, transforming reality with their own hands, acquired new qualities and became active participants in the historical process. With a wide range of legal and factual material the author shows the results of this activity, the significance of real socialism's achievements and the prospects for the further development of socialist democracy based on the Constitution of the Soviet state of the whole people.

The position of the individual under socialism is regarded from various angles in the book--in relation to the problems of equality and freedom, social activity and the responsibility of the individual. One important feature of the political system of developed socialism lies, as is known, in the substantial extension of various guarantees of civil rights--economic, political, social and legal organizational rights. All these elements are reflected broadly in the work, and--it is important to stress this--they are examined here not in isolation, but as a characteristic feature of mutual relations between man and society, the citizen and the state under socialism.

The comprehensive exposition of the civil rights system is in itself a convincing refutation of bourgeois ideologists' attempts to present the results of socialist development and the future of the new historical type of democracy in a tendentious, distorted form. But the author does not confine himself to setting out positive material. He enters into direct polemics with ideological trends hostile to Marxism-Leninism and subjects them to cogent criticism.

Also of great interest is the author's desire to reveal the meaning of socialism humanism as the most important principle of Soviet law and of our society's entire political system. The author makes wide use here of the Leninist legacy and the wealth of ideas contained in the documents of party congresses. He reveals the humanistic content of the Communist Party's policy, which is governed by concern for man and his well-being. The reader will also find in the book a description of the problems which are on the agenda for social development.

I think that V.M. Chkhikvadze's new work will be of interest both for specialists and for a wide range of readers.

PAPERS REPORT REPUBLIC-LEVEL PERSONNEL CHANGES

Turkmen Deputy Premier

LD251429 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 12 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Apparent text of 10 April 1979 "Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree 'On the Appointment of Comrade V.V. Vershinin as Deputy Chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers'"]

[Text] The Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

To appoint Comrade Vladimir Viktorovich Vershinin deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers.

[Signed] B. Yazkuliyev, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, O. Nazarova, secretary of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Turkmen Foreign Minister

LD201545 [Editorial Report LD] Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 5 April 1979 frontpages a Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 4 April 1979 announcing the appointment of Nazar Toyliyevich Suyonov, deputy chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers, as Turkmen foreign minister. The same page publishes on page 4 the following unattributed report: "By a 4 April 1979 decree of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade Chary Soyunovich Karryyev has been released from his duties as Turkmen foreign minister."

Tadzhik Publishing Official

LD231411 [Editorial Report LD] Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 7 April 1979 frontpages a Tadzhik Supreme Soviet Presidium decree dated 6 April appointing Kholmurod Sharipov chairman of the Tadzhik State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade and carries on page 3 a TADZHIKTA report that the Tadzhik Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Sayfullo Pulatov from his duties in that post in connection with a transfer to other work.

Georgian Timber Industry Minister

LD231401 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 5 Apr 79 p 4 LD

["Diary" report]

[Text] A Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree has released Comrade Shota Ambrosiyevich Titberidze from the post of Georgian SSR minister of the timber and wood processing industry.

Belorussian CP Bureau Member

LD241207 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 7 Apr 79 p 1 LD

["Information Report on the Belorussian CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The 17th Belorussian CP Central Committee plenum was held in Minsk on 6 April. The plenum was opened by Comrade P.M. Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee. The plenum heard a report by Comrade V.I. Borvikov, second secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee, "On Progress in Fulfilling the Socialist Pledges Adopted by the Republic's Working People for 1979."

The plenum also examined an organizational question. In connection with V.S. Shevelukha's appointment to the post of USSR deputy minister of agriculture the plenum released him from his duties as secretary and member of the Bureau of the Belorussian CP Central Committee. N.I. Dementey was elected secretary and member of the Bureau of the Belorussian CP Central Committee.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES PHILOSOPHY INSTITUTE AWARDED

LD251323 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Apparent text of "USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree Awarding the Order of the Labor Red Banner to the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy"]

[Text] The USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy is to be awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner for its services in developing and propagandizing philosophical science.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

M. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Moscow, Kremlin. 19 April 1979

KIEV RADIO PUBLISHES CENSUS RESULTS FOR UKRAINE

AU251234 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 25 Apr 79 AU

[Text] Aleksandr Ivanovich Troyan, Ukrainian Central Statistical Administration chief, told a RATAU correspondent the first results of the 1979 census in our republic, which show that the Ukraine's population now totals 49,757,000. The population has been increasing faster in the areas where the construction of new production facilities has developed in major national economic branches. There are now 22.8 million men and 27 million women in the Ukraine. Thus there are 119 women for every man. The numerical gap between men and women, primarily caused by the last war, is gradually reducing. In the age group up to 45 years the ratio has for the most part been balanced. In the past 40 years, 142 new cities emerged in the republic. Some 46 cities have more than 100,000 inhabitants, and five cities--Kiev, Kharkov, Dneprupetrovsk, Odessa and Donetsk--have more than 1 million inhabitants each.

UKRAINE OFFICIAL NOTES PROBLEM OF MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS

AU251306 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0810 GMT 25 Apr 79 AU

[From the press review]

[Text] RADYANSKA UKRAINA carries an article by Panteleyev, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Labor, "The Economy of Labor." The question of cadres has a particular place among problmes now preoccupying enterprise, project, kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders, the author writes. This is natural. Until recently, the growing production needs in manpower were met to a significant extent at the expense of the ablebodied population engaged in housekeeping and subsidiary farming [pidsobne hospodarstvo]. This source has now been almost fully exhausted. The republic's national economy employs nearly 94 percent of all ablebodied persons. The possibilities for drawing on the countryside for additional manpower have been reduced. Having acquired modern equipment, agriculture now needs more skilled cadres of machine operators. The article puts emphasis on a rational utilization of labor resources.

INTOURIST JUBILEE MEETING LAUDS ROLE OF TOURISM

LD092158 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 9 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 9, TASS--"Foreign tourism has become an effective part of the Soviet Union's foreign economic relations, a new branch of the country's national economy", it is pointed out in the Soviet Government's message of greetings on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Intourist travel agency. It was read out today at a festive meeting in Moscow by Ivan Arkhipov, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. As noted in the message, Intourist exerts much efforts to familiarize foreign guests with the achievements of the Soviet people in communist construction, with the foreign policy of the Soviet state aimed at consolidating world peace. Its activities are important for the strengthening of contacts, mutual trust and friendship among the peoples of different countries. In his report to the meeting Sergey Nikitin, head of the chief department for foreign tourism of the USSR, said that "the Soviet Union's tourist ties have become an effective factor of strengthening fraternal internationalist friendship with the socialist countries, an important means for affirming the principle of peaceful coexistence". He recalled that the Soviet Union had signed special inter-governmental agreements on cooperation in the sphere of tourism with all the countries-members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, and also with Yugoslavia, Italy, France, Belgium, Finland, Iraq, Lebanon, and Cyprus.

Furthermore, questions of tourism are reflected in the agreements on economic and cultural cooperation with the FRG, Great Britain, USA, Canada, and many other states. Development of international tourist relations of the USSR found relfection in the current five-year plan (1976-1980), Nikitin noted. During the past three years the Soviet Union was visited by guests from 155 countries, and Soviet people visited 135 states.

ENERGY MINISTER PRAISES ELECTRIFICATION PROGRESS

LD242007 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

["Progress of Soviet Power Generation"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 24, TASS--More than a trillion two hundred billion kilowatt-hours of electricity are annually generated in the USSR. The big successes of the Soviet power industry are a result of the consistent implementation of Lenin's formula that "communism means Soviet government plus the electrification of the whole country," a TASS corespondent was told by the USSR minister of energy and electrification, Petr Neporozhniy. The world's first long-term plan of economic development on the basis of electrification--Goelro (State Plan for the Electrification of Russia) was drawn up on Lenin's initiative in 1920, that is long before the First Five-Year Plan. It was based on Lenin's principles of electrification that are topical to this day. By present standards the Goelro plan provided for a rather modest programme of construction: 30 district power stations with a total capacity of 1,750,000 kilowatts were to be built within the time span of 10-15 years. But in those years this programme gave a powerful impetus to the development of large-scale machine industry, to the reconstruction of agriculture and electrification of railway transport.

Now the scale is quite different. Soviet power stations, built in the years of the past five-year-plan periods, possess a potential of about 245 million kilowatts and fully satisfy the requirements of the country of developed socialism. One of the main principles incorporated in the Goelro plan, the minister went on, was the rational siting of the new power stations to ensure a more uniform distribution of productive forces throughout the country's territory. Soviet power specialists adhere to this principle to this day. Thermal power stations are built in areas with big deposits of brown coal. The energy of the atom is used in the central part of the USSR where there is a shortage of mineral resources. Huge hydropower stations are built on the fast and full rivers of Siberia and the Far East, solving simultaneously problems of power supply, irrigation, water supply and shipping.

Lenin's programme of electrification provided for the construction of big power stations that could meet the needs of whole areas. Gigantic territorial-industrial complexes are being built now on the basis of the Krasnoyarsk (six million kilowatts), Bratsk (4.5 million kilowatts), the Sayano-Shushenskaya (on completion to reach 6.4 million kilowatts) and other big stations in Eastern Siberia. These stations also ensure the rapid development of metallurgy, wood chemistry and other energy-intensive industries. Lenin dreamt of the time when Russia would become covered with a ramified network of power stations. Today this is a reality. The creation of the country's single power grid has been going on throughout all the Soviet five-year-plan periods. This grid now encompasses an enormous territory of ten million square kilometres with a population of more than 220 million. Uniting more than 800 power stations and controlled from a single dispatcher centre, the single power grid of the USSR has no analogues in the world. The remaining parts of the USSR are supplied power by local stations.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 24-25 APRIL

LD260230 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0001 GMT, on 24 April reports that spring fieldwork is beginning in the Kulunda steppe area in the Altayskiy Kray with selective harrowing of autumn fallow. The bread farmers are to sow grain crops, interrow and fodder crops on 6.5 million hectares.

At 0700 GMT the radio carries a report on spring fieldwork in Kurskaya Oblast saying that to date 200,000 hectares, or one-fifth of the spring area, has been sown to early grain crops.

At 0001 GMT on 25 April the radio reports that land improvers have begun fieldwork at Lake Khanka. They are preparing nearly 1,300 hectares of newly irrigated rice paddies. The total area under use in the Primorskiy Kray is nearly 38,000 hectares which is 1,000 hectares more than last year.

The radio says at 0200 GMT that the front of field work is moving northeast. Sowing is in progress in Khersonskaya and Zaporozhskaya oblasts. In Ivovskaya Oblast thousands of hectares have been planted to early grain crops. Cotton is being sown in Central Asia.

At 1000 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of perennial grasses has begun in Belorussia. Most attention is being devoted to lucerne, with yields 400-500 quintals per hectare of grenery. Plots allocated to this crop are being extended and will occupy around 200,000 hectares. Sowing of clover is also increasing.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that spring sowing is starting in Lipetskaya Oblast. Spring w ork is to be carried out on 1 million hectares this year. Farmers in Buryatskaya ASSR have also started their spring fieldwork. They have decided to produce 600,000 tons of grain crops this year and to increase the production of potatoes and fodder.

The radio also reports at 1400 GMT that sugar beet sowing has been completed over the whole area of 120,000 hectares in Moldavia.

IZVESTIYA ON ORENBURGSKAYA OBLAST SPRING SOWING PREPARATION

LD251037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Correspondent M. Ovcharov, nonstaff correspondent G. Filippov report under the rubric "The Harvest Watch": "Every Hour Is Precious: The Orenburgskaya Oblast Farmers Will Work on the Spring Sowing in the Ipatovskiy Rayon Style"]

[Text] Orenburgskaya Oblast--Spring in the southern Urals is capricious this year. It is hard to predict the weather even a day ahead. The sun was already hot and the streams had begun to flow, when suddenly a piercing wind blew up and thick snow began to fall....

On just such a day of snowstorms we arrived at the Yuriy Gagarin Sovkhoz and witnessed an unusual scene--busy tractors were towing sowing units out beyond the village over the snow. A rehearsal of the sowing was under way. The farm had repaired all soil cultivators, sowing implements and tractors in good time. Now, while there was still time, they had decided to check out completely the operation of machinery and the reliability of all units and assemblies so that the sowing will take place without a hitch from the very start.

"In essence," we were told by V. Ivanchenko, chief of one of the sovkhoz's sowing complexes, "the spring campaign has already started for us. As you see, everyone is attached to a team. The seed is ready, the canteen is operating, the hostel is open and the forge has started working at full capacity."

Grain growers on the sovkhoz have a tremendous volume of work to fulfill. Some 18,000 hectares are to be sown with spring crops. The machinery's work load is undoubtedly heavy. But the sovkhoz has decided to carry out the sowing of early grain crops in a short space of time--in 100 hours--like last year. This is laid down by the working plan. But that time, taking into account the thorough, sometimes repeated cultivation of the fields prior to sowing, is the bare **minimum**. What will make it possible to adhere to such a tough schedule?

"The Ipatovskiy Rayon work method," A. Perevertov, the farm's chief agronomist, said replying to our question is "what makes it possible to assemble machinery into a single concentrated force and use it more effectively. Two transport and sowing detachments and one technical service unit will be operating in each of our four complexes. We believe this is the most rational structure."

Each detachment--and that is a self-contained production subunit--is responsible for an area of land throughout a whole period of fieldwork. Whoever harrows, cultivates and sows the fields will subsequently harvest them. This considerably increases responsibility for allocated tasks and each machine operator's interest in the final result of his labor. And we have high pledges: to gather 18 quintals of grain per hectare and to sell the state 257,000 quintals of grain, which considerably exceeds the plan target.

This year there are many farms in Orenburgskaya Oblast which are greeting the spring of the fourth year of the 5-year plan fully armed. For instance, the "Za Mir" Kolkhoz, Ileksiy Rayon, has decided to sow all early grain crops--more than 5,000 hectares--in 5 working days. Here the high work tempo is backed up by precise calculations. During soil moisture conservation measures, the area cultivated per unit will amount to 100 hectares as against a norm of 48. During sowing, the area dealt with will be 75 hectares as against a norm of 35. It is planned to refuel the tractors in the fields. Technical assistance teams will move from unit to unit in the fields. The farm has shown due concern for the living conditions of people taking part in the sowing. Home comforts have been provided for machine operators in the field camps and three meals a day have been organized.

"The oblast's farmers have decided to carry out the sowing campaign in an exceptionally short space of time, but without detriment to the quality of work," V. Bolshakov, first deputy chairman of Orenburgskiy Oblispolkom stressed in a conversation with us. "The task is to thoroughly fulfill all technological operations connected both with the cultivation of soil prior to sowing and with the sowing itself. The Ipatovskiy Rayon method, of whose advantages we became convinced during last year's harvest, should help us carry out work efficiently. A total of 1,479 sowing complexes have now been formed in the oblast. An oblast scientific and production conference has just taken place in Orenburg, and was devoted to increasing the yield and total harvest of grain and other crops. The scientific recommendations elaborated by the conference participants will be widely applied during this year's spring sowing."

...Unfortunately, there are still serious shortcomings in preparations for the soil. In the oblast as a whole, the necessary stock of seeds has been created and their quality is rather higher than last year's. [paragraph continues]

That is good. But something else must be mentioned. Only 82 percent of seeds fall within the first and second categories. And in Severnyy Rayon, for instance, the figure is only 41 percent. Concern is also aroused by the level of machine preparation. By 1 April less machinery in the oblast had been repaired than last year. This applies to tractors as well as seed drills, plows and cultivators. The situation with "Kirov" tractors is particularly difficult. More than 10,000 of these are standing idle on farms. And this is the main force in the eastern virgin land regions of Orenburgskaya Oblast.

What is the trouble? The oblast is being let down by plants supplying motors, gearboxes and electrical equipment--the Yaroslavl motor plant, the Pavlodar tractor plant, the melitopol "Avtozapchast" and certain other enterprises.

Time waits for no man. The motors will soon begin to roar on the vast grainfields of Orenburgskaya Oblast. It is necessary by the start of the toil to rectify all defects and eliminate vehicle and machinery stoppages. The oblast's farmers have adopted high pledges--to pour at least 3.8 million tons of grain into the motherland's granaries. And in order to keep their word, all reserves must be brought into play.

FLOODS CAUSE DAMAGE IN KIEV, LANDSLIDES IN BUKOVINA

AU201237 [Editorial Report AU] Kiev ROBITNYCHA HAZETA in Ukrainian on 14 April carried on page three a 500-word story by O. Lutsenko, "Curbing the Flood," saying that by that date the Dnepr had flooded an area of 14,000 hectares in the suburban area of Kiev, including Poznyaki, Osokorki, parts of the Rusanovka groves and the hydraulic park and some 300 buildings at Darnitea. According to the story, in the second half of April the Dnepr water should reach the 900-centimeter mark above the conventional zero, or nearly a meter below the level recorded during the great 1970 flood. Since the flood was anticipated, it has reportedly caused little harm to the city population and has not affected city life.

Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian on 15 April features on page four a 900-word report by its Chernovtsy correspondent B. Sidorenko, "Resisting the Natural Calamity," reporting landslides in a number of localities in Bukovina caused by the thaw and torrential rains on 8-10 April. The landslides have reportedly affected Chervona Dibrova village and "at least" seven other localities in Chernovitskaya Oblast. Early on 9 April the landslide shifted the track of the Chernovtsy-Bucharest Railroad near Hlyboka-Bukovynska Station, thus interrupting the railroad traffic. According to the report, traffic has been restored, with the first passenger train having run early on 12 April. All those who were made homeless, Sidorenko says, are being moved to reliable buildings.

COSMOS-1096 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 25 APRIL

LD251328 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1410 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 25 April--Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1096, was launched in the USSR today. Onboard is scientific apparatus designed to continue research into outer space.

The satellite was launched into orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution--93.3 minutes; apogee--457 km; perigee--439 km; inclination of orbit--65 degrees.

RADUGA COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED 25 APR

LD251724 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 25, TASS--Another communications satellite Raduga was launched in the Soviet Union today in accordance with the program for the further development of the communications and telecasting systems with the use of artificial satellites of the earth. The satellite carries an onboard relay apparatus designed to ensure in the centimetre wave-band an uninterrupted round-the-clock telephone and telegraph radiocommunications and simultaneously the transmission of colour and black-and-white programs of Central Television to the network of Orbita stations.

The satellite Raduga was put into a circular orbit close to a stationary one with the following initial parameters: the distance from the earth's surface--36,000 kilometres, period of revolution around the earth 24 hours two minutes, and orbital inclination 0.4 degree.

Apart from the improved multiplex relay apparatus of communication and television, the satellite carries: a three-axis system of fine orientation towards the earth, a system of power supply with solar batteries' independent of sun guidance and tracking, a system for correction in orbit, a thermo-regulation system, a radio-telemetric system to transmit back to earth data on the functioning of the onboard systems, and a radio system for precision measurement of orbital parameters and satellite control.

The onboard instrumentation of the Raduga satellite is functioning normally. The command-and-instrumentation complex is exercising control of the satellite. Communications and television apparatus of the satellite will be operated in accordance with the planned program.

The satellite Raduga has the international registration index "Statsionar-1."

COSMONAUTS OBSERVING, PHOTOGRAPHING EARTH'S SURFACE

LD242315 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The flight of Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin is continuing onboard the orbiting Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 complex. In accordance with the program of researching natural resources and studying the environment, the crewmen are making visual observations and photographing individual parts of the earth's surface and the world ocean. Scientific research was continued today using the small Yelena gamma-telescope set up in the living compartment of the Soyuz-32 craft.

SALYUT COSMONAUTS DESCRIBE BIOLOGICAL EXPERMENTS IN SPACE

LD252326 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD

["Salyut-6-Soyuz-32: In Orbit Today." Report by Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin]

[Text] [Lyakhov] Good day, dear listeners. Today we want to talk to you about the biological experiments taking place in our station. Apart from the cosmonauts there are also living creatures onboard the station. These are drosophila fruit flies. These biological patients have a solid space service record. They have been investigated on more than one occasion on orbital stations and manned ships. Much interesting data has already been obtained on their development in weightlessness. However, many new questions arose as to how weightlessness affects heredity. Drosophila flies are very handy for genetic research in onboard experiments. They are very small and multiply quickly. A new generation is born every 2 weeks. The flies are reared in a special little thermostat house called a (?biotherm), which insures the best temperature for their development. This temperature is maintained at 24 degrees celsius. A fairly tasty nutrient medium has been prepared here for the larvae. It consists of treacle made from (?raisins) and yeast. The flies are delivered to the orbital station in inserts [vkladysh] by the transport ship. We then put the inserts into the (?biotherm). At the end of the experiment we shall transfer them to the descent vehicle and deliver them back to earth so that they can be studied in a laboratory. And now Valeriy will talk about the following experiment which we are conducting.

[Ryumin] I shall try to talk briefly about the experiment being conducted in the Biogravistat apparatus. Well, it was noted a long time ago that in weightlessness plants do not grow, if I can put it that way. I mean that they grow as long as they are growing from seed. Such experiments have been conducted for a long time and we have continued these experiments--that is, seeds of cucumbers and garden radishes were planted here. (?By the way) they grew until the pips [words indistinct] from the root. After this the plant would perish. And how will a plant behave if it is put into the apparatus we call the Biogravistat? The Biogravistat is a small centrifuge which was delivered to us onboard by the Progress-5 cargo ship and which we have installed here. It is a moving, rotating plate and there is a stationary plate for control purposes. Plant seeds are put on the moving plate and they rotate here. Control seeds are put on the stationary plate. We have carried out such experiments with seeds sent to us by the cargo ship. After this we secured [fiksirovat] these seeds from the moving plate and from the stationary plate. Experiments were then carried out with cucumber seeds. We put the seeds on the moving plate in various directions as regards centrifugal force which arises when the moving plate is turned. And in the same way we also put seeds on the stationary control plate. Well, it was noted that the roots of the seeds on the mobile plate grew twice as quickly--approximately--on it; they sprouted and then developed more quickly. And the main thing is that on the plate the root is directed along the radius in whichever direction the centrifugal force acts. These roots were also put into the biocontainers where they were secured and then on earth scientists will carry out more detailed investigations and will no doubt make some sort of conclusions on the development of plants on the moving or stationary plates. That is, it will be possible to compare the development of plants in weightlessness and where acceleration acts.

[Lyakhov] We now end our brief reportage and so, until we meet on the air again, goodbye.

BALTIC FLEET SHIP DESTROYS CRUISE MISSILE DURING EXERCISE

LD200911 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 79 p 1 LD

[Senior Lt V. Kostomarov report: "At a Cruise Missile"]

[Text] Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet--On a sea crossing the patrol ship Bditelnyy was attacked by an "enemy" from the air. Lt Capt L. Shevchenko, commander of the ship, ordered the destruction of the target by missile fire.

When the target cruise missile came into the zone of destruction, seamen on the bow antiaircraft missile battery headed by Lt O. Dudin, operated irreproachably. The test firing was completed with a high assessment.

AIR DEFENSE OFFICER RECALLS U.S. OVERFLIGHTS OF USSR

LD250951 [Editorial Report LD] Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 8 April 1979 publishes on page 2, under the headline "Guarding the Motherland's Skies," a 3,000-word article, marking Air Defense Forces Day, by Col Gen Avn A. Konstantinov commander of the Red Banner Baku Air Defense District. Konstantinov traces the history and exploits of the air defense forces from the Civil War to the present day. He declares: "The annals of the country's air defense forces also include records of martial exploits by the defenders of the motherland's skies during peacetime. They stopped a spy flight by a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft by shooting it down with a missile 1 May 1960. Capt B. Zakharov and Capt N. Svetlichnikov, fighter pilots, forced down another aircraft bearing USAF insignia which had violated our border in the area of Yerevan."

'ENEMY LANDING' REBUFFED IN TACTICAL EXERCISE ON ISLAND

LD250735 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 April 1979 frontpages, under the headline "Fighting on the Shore," a 600-word Maj V. Saranchev report from the Far Eastern Military District describing a "tactical exercise" on an island during which an "'enemy' landing was driven back into the sea." The same paper also frontpages four brief reports, under the rubric "On the Southern Borders," on tactical exercises in the Turkestan Military District, the Baku Air Defense District, the Black Sea Fleet and the Transcaucasus Military District and a 600-word report on a field firing exercise in the Belorussian Military District.

USTINOV SIGNS OBITUARY OF COL GEN V.I. DMITRIYEV

LD230749 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 April 1979 publishes on page 3 the 400-word obituary of technical troops Col Gen (Retd) Vladimir Ivanovich Dmitriyev, who died after a serious illness. He was born in the village of Moshnino in Vladimirskaya Oblast in 1896. The obituary is signed by D.F. Ustinov, N.V. Ogarkov, V.K. Kulikov, A.A. Yepishev, S.I. Sokolov, V.F. Tolubko, I.G. Pavlovskiy, A.I. Koldunov, P.S. Kutakhov, S.G. Gorshkov, K.S. Moskalenko, S.K. Kurkotkin, N.I. Savinkin, A.T. Altunin, N.N. Alekseyev, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, I.N. Shakadov, I. Kh. Bagramyan, V.I. Chuykov, P.F. Batitskiy and others.